

**EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE CALL #3 IN OUR SERIES:
“AFFIRMING DIGNITY AND INDIVIDUALITY: A LOOK AT RESIDENTS’ RIGHTS”
AUGUST 22, 2006 – 3PM (ET)**

Expert Speaker Biography: Mike Connors

In a career spanning 28 years, Mike has worked to improve choices and care for people who need long term care. He is currently employed by California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform (CANHR) as a member of its advocacy team.

Previously, Mike served for 11 years as director of the Detroit office of Citizens for Better Care (CBC), which operates the long term care ombudsman program. He also worked at Michigan Protection and Advocacy for several years, helping individuals with disabilities move from institutions into community settings. Earlier in his career, Mike lived and worked in New Orleans for nine years, where he helped create home and community-based long term care services and established an advocacy organization that fights for the rights of nursing home residents. He got his start in California as a VISTA volunteer for a pilot legal service program for elders that was housed at the University of Southern California Andrus Gerontology Center.

Mike is a 1976 graduate of Michigan State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science.