

# Sequestration

## The **HEAVY** impact on older people in Wisconsin



Because of sequestration — the automatic federal spending cuts enacted in 2013 — Wisconsin county and tribal aging programs will receive an across-the-board reduction in federal funding for programs that people age 60 and older depend on to maintain their health and independence.

**Ending sequestration and fully funding programs that support seniors is both cost-effective AND what older people want!**

## Older People are at risk when Programs are at risk . . .

### Sequestration cuts mean fewer services provided by counties and tribes\*

*(figures exclude Dane and Milwaukee counties)*

	2013	2014	2015
<b>Meals</b>			
Delivered to home	1,637,244 meals	1,473,922 meals	1,262,625 meals
In a dining center	1,294,818 meals	1,222,294 meals	1,135,998 meals
<b>Help at Home</b> Includes personal care, homemaker and chore help	28,549 hours	26,549 hours	23,683 hours
<b>Programs Promoting Health</b> Includes workshops and services that help older maintain health and wellness	20,928 sessions	17,697 sessions	13,363 sessions
<b>Caregiver Support</b> For respite care (i.e., someone to stay with the person needing care so the caregiver can take a break)	34,992 hours	29,301 hours	21,643 hours

### Who could get hurt . . .

Meet Betty. The 80-year old widow lives alone, has limited monthly income, does not drive, and is confined to a wheelchair due to a chronic spinal condition that makes it impossible to prepare meals on her own.

Betty was referred to the Aging & Disability Resource Center by the local hospital and started receiving home-delivered meals. She says that without her daily meal she would likely be in a nursing home. For Betty, leaving her home would be devastating. It is the home she has lived in for the past 60 years. It's where she raised seven children with her husband who recently died. She didn't think she could cope with another major loss in her life.

Since starting her daily meals, she has regained some strength and has started going to church again — something she thought she would never be able to do. She still uses a wheelchair, but feels life is more manageable. Things are much brighter now.

While getting meals has been a life-saver for Betty, it has been equally important for her family, most of whom live far away. It's reassuring to know that a friendly volunteer is checking on her every day when the meal is delivered.

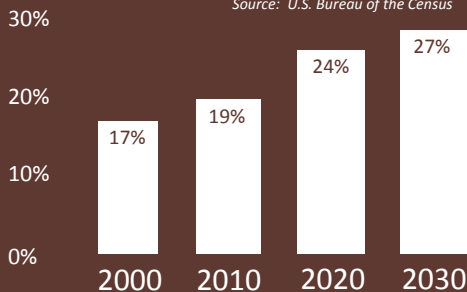
"Without the meals, who knows where I would be now?" says Betty. "I am so thankful to be in my home with all my wonderful memories."

\* Figures based on county and tribal data reporting, state-announced funding allocations, and trend analysis and forecasting.

## Elder Population on the Rise

% of population in Wisconsin age 60+

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census



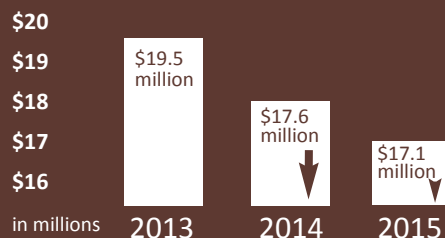
# 38%

Percentage of people in Wisconsin age 65+ with a household income at or below \$25,000 annually

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Funding for Programs to Support Wisconsin Elders is on the Decline

Total expected funds for county & tribal aging programs and services:



Based on state-announced budget cuts and projections (excluding Dane & Milwaukee counties).

# \$118

The average cost of one day in an assisted living facility\*\*

# \$248

The average cost of one day of nursing home care\*\*

# \$2,030

The average cost of one day of inpatient hospital care in Wisconsin\*\*\*

\*\* 2012 MetLife Market Survey of Nursing Home, Assisted Living, Adult Day Services, and Home Care Costs; \*\*\* Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation



## Where the heart is . . .

The services provided by county and tribal aging programs (*listed below*) are a cost-effective way to help older people stay independent at home.

**\$ 8.98** The average cost of one home-delivered meal in Wisconsin.

**\$33.56** The average cost of two hours of respite care in Wisconsin.

**\$64.52** The average cost of two hours of help at home in Wisconsin.



## Who could get hurt . . .

Edith came to the Aging & Disability Resource Center looking for help. She struggled with stenosis, vertigo, and pain — had fallen many times and feared walking without a cane — and worried that she would soon need a wheelchair. But her biggest worry was that she would have to leave her home.

She learned about the ADRC's falls prevention program — Stepping On — and hoped that by taking the class, she could turn her situation around.

## She did.

Today, Edith is wheelchair-free and is leading Stepping On classes as a peer leader. She says the program changed her life.

"Every morning I get up and bet on myself," says Edith. "I never give up."

Prevention programs like Stepping On offer more than just an education — they offer hope. And they're critical to keeping Edith — and others like her — safe and at home.

# Don't let Sequestration hurt older people in Wisconsin

## For more information, contact:

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