

Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources  
(GWAAR)

**Advisory Council Application**

The Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR)—a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization—is seeking thoughtful, civic-minded, persons for its Advisory Council. GWAAR is the area agency on aging that provides federal and state funding, technical assistance, program monitoring, and advocacy for the 70 county and 11 tribal aging services providers across Wisconsin (not including Dane and Milwaukee Counties). If you are looking for a challenging volunteer opportunity where your skills can make a difference in program planning, development, and implementation—we encourage you to apply.

**Purpose**

The Council advises the GWAAR Board of Directors on priority issues including overseeing the area plan and monitoring the agency’s progress and effectiveness. In addition, the Advisory Council is actively engaged with the GWAAR Advocacy Team. The Council fulfills its purpose by:

- Understanding its role as advisor to GWAAR’s Board of Directors and staff.
- Advising the board on aging issues that support GWAAR’s mission.
- Maintaining the integrity of the aging services network.
- Consulting with GWAAR Board, staff, state, and local resources.

**Commitment**

Advisory Council members must be able to devote time and energy to accomplishing goals that may include: monitoring and evaluating the agency’s required plan objectives; advocating on behalf of pertinent policy, including legislation that may support older adults in living independently; and addressing priority issues identified by GWAAR’s Board of Directors.

Advisory Council members should be able to:

- Share in the mission of GWAAR.
- Demonstrate leadership advancing the agency’s mission in a non-partisan, unbiased fashion.
- Be willing and available to advocate on behalf of aging policies and legislation.
- Serve at least one, three-year term.
- Attend, at a minimum, four council meetings per year (necessary expenses paid by GWAAR).

**Encouraging Diversity**

In accordance with the Older Americans Act, at least 51% of our Advisory Council is required to be age 60 or older. We strive for diversity on our staff, Board, and leadership to enhance our understanding of the varying needs of older people.

Our Council welcomes letters from applicants who have a special interest in the needs of older Native American, Hmong, LGBT, and other minority populations. We are also committed to having geographic representation on the Advisory Council.



**Madison Office:**

1414 MacArthur Road, Suite A  
Madison, WI 53713  
Phone: 608-243-5670  
Fax: 866-813-0974  
[gwaar.org](http://gwaar.org)

**Tribal Technical Assistance Center:**

GLITC, Inc.  
P.O. Box 9  
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538  
Phone: 800-472-7207  
Fax: 715-588-7900

## Selection Criteria

The following, while not required, would be desired traits for applicants to the Advisory Council:

- Ability to engage in “big-picture” thinking.
- Non-profit and/or non-partisan involvement either professionally or through volunteerism.
- Prior experience in plan review, monitoring, and evaluation.
- A sincere interest in advocacy, especially as it relates to aging programs that help people remain in the community.
- Previous experience in legislative activities, if any.
- A special interest in the needs of minority populations, especially Native American, Hmong, LGBT, or others.

## To Apply

Applications should include a current resume and a type-written response to the following three questions. Responses to each question should be limited to 100 words. Please submit your application as directed below.

1. What experience and skills will you bring to this organization?
2. Please describe how service on the Advisory Council will complement your current commitments and obligations.
3. What motivates you to apply for a position on the GWAAR Advisory Council?

## To Submit

All materials must be submitted by mail, fax, or email to:

Advisory Council Selection Committee  
Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging  
Resources 1414 MacArthur Road, Suite A  
Madison, WI 53714  
Fax: 866-813-0974  
Email: [info@gwaar.org](mailto:info@gwaar.org)

Questions may be directed to GWAAR Executive Director John Schnabl by email at:

[john.schnabl@gwaar.org](mailto:john.schnabl@gwaar.org)

If sending by email, please put **Advisory Council Selection** in the subject line of the message.

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*GWAAR is an equal-opportunity employer and advocate. As such, it is our policy not to discriminate against any person regardless of sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), race, religion, color, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, marital or parental status, source of income, sexual orientation, military service, or political beliefs provided the individual is qualified to perform the work or duties necessary in a non-partisan, un-biased capacity. It is our policy to comply voluntarily with the concepts and practices of affirmative action.*

## Questions That May Be Part of Application/Interview Process

- What experience/knowledge/skills do you have with program planning and evaluation?
- What knowledge do you have of the Older Americans Act?
- What knowledge do you have regarding area agencies on aging?
- Have you had, or are you currently involved with local aging programming? If so, in what capacity?
- What knowledge/experience do you have regarding the legislative process in Wisconsin?
- How would you go about representing the interests of people across the state?
- Are you familiar with, or have you worked with, any minority populations either professionally or as a volunteer?
- How does serving on this advisory council fit with your current commitments and obligations?
- What do you see as important for programs that assist older persons in maintaining their independence?



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