



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources

Calendar of Events

Links to files may download or open, depending on your settings.

General

Wisconsin Eliminates Waitlist for Long-Term Care Services for Medicaid-Eligible Adults

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Success achieved in decades-long effort to ensure Wisconsinites who are elderly or have physical or developmental disabilities can receive home and community-based services. Read about it here:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/news/releases/031021.htm>

Aging Plans

[Jane Mahoney](#), Older Americans Act Consultant

[Nick Musson](#), Older Americans Act Consultant

Nice to Know

Tips and Highlights

Look to your community partners to collaborate on community input. Lynne in Clark County is partnering with the UW-Extension for a survey that meets both of their needs. They worked together to write the survey questions and Extension is collecting and organizing the responses, creating an easy-to-read report.

Here's another idea. Think about incorporating incentives into your surveys to increase response. Debbie in Waushara County is planning to have a drawing for gift certificates, donated by a local grocery store, for those who complete the survey. You could also use some of your marketing giveaways or free rides as incentives. This could be a good way to increase participation from underserved populations as well.

For resources related to aging plan development: <https://gwaar.org/plansamendmentsassessments>

Family Caregiver Support

[Jane Mahoney](#), Older Americans Act Consultant - Family Caregiver Specialist

Need to Know

Wisconsin Caregiver Support Community Statewide Call

Tuesday, March 23

10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99308906426?pwd=azhxOWg2WW92ZDlubEhyNERLVDNWZz09>

Or Dial-In: 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 993 0890 6426

Passcode: 748310

The main presentation on this call will be a panel of experienced support group facilitators sharing tips and best practices for planning and facilitating caregiver support groups and answering any questions you might have. We will also learn about the Elder Abuse Hotline and hear Janet's Advocacy Report. The full agenda is on the website here: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2006515>
website: <https://gwaar.org/wisconsin-caregiver-support-community-monthly-calls>

Change in Trualta Reporting

Effective 3/1/21, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) changed its policy for how programs should report Trualta activities in Wellsky/SAMS.

We are removing the subservice for Trualta under Caregiver Training and activating instead a Trualta subservice under 68-Information Services.

This change will make data entry easier for you all, so please stop entering Trualta data into Wellsky/SAMS until DHS activates the new subservice.

Please dispose of any saved copies of the earlier guidance that DHS distributed related to Wellsky/SAMS data entry for Trualta. (This information was shared in an email from Lynn Gall dated March 3 at 12:18 pm.)

Reminder: 2021 Virtual Families Like Mine Conference

July 19, 2021

Due to continued concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic, the 3rd Annual Families Like Mine Conference for Relative Caregivers of Children will be held completely virtually on July 19, 2021. To make the conference more accessible in the virtual format, the presentations will be available again for all registered participants to view at any time during the week of July 19 and beyond!

Presentations will again be pre-recorded; topics and presenters are yet to be finalized. Registration details will be provided soon!

A company specializing in virtual conferences and events has been hired, which will make for a very user-friendly registration & overall experience for attendees.

The SAVE the DATE! "postcard" may be printed. Please share it with your Relative Caregiver communities/contacts.

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2006507>

Health Promotion

[Angie Sullivan](#), OAA Consultant - Health Promotions Specialist

Need to Know

New! Search Tool from NCOA for Evidence-Based Programs for Title III-D Funding

Hope this finds you staying well! The National Council on Aging (NCOA) has launched a new website with a special search function specific to evidence-based programs approved for Title III-D Funding.

What? On NCOA's new website, all programs have a unique page dedicated to describing key aspects of the program. The pages were created based on NCOA's requests last summer for up-to-date program information, as well as new program guidance for remote delivery. The new pages and search function replace the attached chart and any former PDF pages about individual programs. The attached chart will no longer be updated and questions regarding programs eligible for Title III-D funding will be directed to the search page.

Where? Visit the new evidence-based program search here: <https://www.ncoa.org/evidence-based-programs>

How? Visitors can search for a program by name (e.g. “Active Living Every Day”) or select filters to view a list of programs that match specific needs (e.g. program format, training format, topic, etc.). View this demo to see it in action: <https://vimeo.com/520118201>

If you have any questions regarding this new site, please contact Kathleen Zuke, Senior Program Manager, Center for Healthy Aging Kathleen.zuke@ncoa.org, 571-527-3955.

Nice to Know

Welcome to Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Kassy Heard!

Please join me in welcoming Kassy Heard to her new role in the Wisconsin Aging Network. Kassy is the Tribal Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) Program Director for the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC). In her new role, one of her many duties includes the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention efforts of the Tribal Aging Units. Kassy has been with GLTIC for 2 1/2 years; her previous role was as the Fiscal Administrative Assistant. She has already planned several health promotion workshops for the Wisconsin Tribal Aging Units. Get to know Kassy better with a few questions and answers below:

What is your favorite part of your job? Connecting communities to programs and resources.

What are your hobbies? I like to exercise and read.

What is the best piece of advice you have been given or gave? “Don’t worry about things you can’t control - Place your energy into things you have the ability to change.”

Another piece of good advice, I got from my Dad, was “When you hold a grudge and anger towards someone... it doesn’t hurt them, it hurts you. It is like a poison in your body eating away at what makes you good. So no matter what anyone does to you, don’t carry that poison.” Basically, forgiveness is for you as much as it is for the person you are forgiving. I was in my late teens/early twenties when he was talking about this, and I have used this advice since many times.

Welcome Kassy! You can contact her at kheard@glitc.org.

Nutrition Program

[Lori Fernandez](#), OAA Consultant - Nutrition Program Specialist

[Jean Lynch](#), OAA Consultant - Nutrition Program Specialist

[Pam VanKampen](#), Older Americans Act Consultant — Nutrition Specialist — Senior Center Representative

Nice to Know

Forty-nine Years of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program – Through COVID-19 and Beyond

Joint Town Hall with National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)

Monday, March 22, 2021

12:00 p.m.

Hosts: Ellie Hollander, President and CEO, Meals on Wheels America and Bob Blancato, Executive Director, NANASP

Special guests: Members of Congress to be announced.

Webinar registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D_9XiJM3QbmcCucknRZNjg

Join *Meals on Wheels America* President and CEO Ellie Hollander and *NANASP* Executive Director Bob Blancato on Monday, March 22 at 1:00 p.m. EDT, for a virtual Town Hall recognizing the 49th anniversary of the Older Americans Act (OAA) Nutrition Program amid an unprecedented time in our nation’s history.

We are eager to come together in this virtual environment to celebrate our historic advocacy victories, the network’s resilience and response to the pandemic, and so much more. We’ll also explore topics and questions that are top of mind for you and share the advocacy and awareness opportunities we’re anticipating in the coming weeks and months.

The National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging (NRCNA) New Home- Easy to Navigate!

The NRCNA's purpose is to build the capacity of senior nutrition programs funded by the Older Americans Act (OAA) to provide high quality, person-centered services, and to assist ACL and stakeholders to identify current and emerging issues and opportunities to enhance program sustainability and resiliency. The intent of the OAA senior nutrition program is to: reduce food insecurity, hunger, and malnutrition; enhance socialization; and promote health and well-being.

Check out the website, there is a wealth of useful information. It is categorized by: COVID-19, For Service Providers, Innovative Programs, Consumers, Information, Data and Evaluation. Each category has subcategories. For example: For Service Providers is further broken down to: SUA, AAA, Kitchen Staff, Nutrition Managers, Nutritionist, Rural and Tribal providers.

<https://seniornutrition.acl.gov>

Older Americans Month 2021: Communities of Strength

Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads our nation's observance of Older Americans Month (OAM). The theme for 2021 is "Communities of Strength."

Older adults have built resilience and strength over their lives through successes, failures, joys, and difficulties. Their stories and contributions help to support and inspire others. This May, we will celebrate the strength of older adults and the Aging Network, with special emphasis on the power of connection and engagement in building strong communities.

There are many things we all can do to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive. Connecting with others is one of the most important—it plays a vital role in our health and well-being, and in that of our communities. From finding joy in small things and sharing our stories, to looking at the big picture and giving to others, join us in promoting the ways we are connected and strong.

Bookmark this page and stay tuned for materials, resources, and activity ideas to help you observe OAM. Remember to share your #OlderAmericansMonth plans and stories on social media.

<https://acl.gov/oam/2021/older-americans-month-2021>

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)

Ingrid Kunding, Project Manager

Nice to Know

Another COVID-19 Vaccine Scam to Watch Out For!

Survey scams about the COVID-19 vaccine are being reported across the country. Please be on the lookout for any survey that is asking you to participate in exchange for money, your credit card or banking information, or your Medicare or Social Security number, as these are scams. Please pass this information on to everyone you know.

If you hear of this happening to clients you serve in your community, please report it to the Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol (888) 818-2611.

#SMP Scam Watch: COVID-19 Vaccine Survey: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2006655>

Federal Trade Commission Information

Check out important information from the Federal Trade Commission about scams related to the new COVID-19 rescue plan and helpful tips to share with consumers to help protect them from these types of scams.

https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2021/03/scams-will-follow-new-covid-19-rescue-plan?utm_source=govdelivery