



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources

GWAAR News

Need to Know

Join our Advisory Council

The Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR), is looking for thoughtful, civic-minded, energetic individuals to fill vacancies on its Advisory Council. Advisory Council Members are involved in a variety of activities that support aging programs including promotion of quality improvement of aging services and individual and organizational advocacy. Advisory Council Members are expected to maintain community relationships to promote agency visibility and help achieve agency goals. If you are looking for a challenging volunteer opportunity where your skills can make a difference in program planning, development, and implementation, please apply: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005628>. For questions about volunteering on the Advisory Council, please contact Nick Musson at nick.musson@gwaar.org.

Reminder: Seeking Proposals: Let's Build the Future Meal Program Together with Sustainable Kitchens

GWAAR is currently accepting proposals to work with Sustainable Kitchens — a full scale food service transformation consulting firm to evaluate and bring sustainability to your food service operation. This is an opportunity to be part of a one-year project to build something scalable, that has proven outcomes, and can be expanded throughout the state. Proposals are due by August 26, 2022. For more information, view the RFP (<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007520>) and map (<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2007521>).

Nice to Know

Job Opening: Medicare Outreach Coordinator

The Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) is hiring a full-time Medicare Outreach Coordinator. The Medicare Outreach Coordinator will provide technical assistance and training to SHIP counselors on outreach about Medicare and related health insurance benefits, as well as Medicare Savings Programs, Part D Extra Help, and SeniorCare. The Medicare Outreach Coordinator will also create and update publications, newsletter articles, videos, trainings, and outreach materials related to Medicare, related subsidies, and drug coverage.

This position requires a bachelor's degree with at least one year of human services experience. We are seeking candidates who have a demonstrated commitment to working with clients aged 60 and older, people with disabilities, and/or individuals with low-income. The ideal candidate will have previous experience with Medicare and beneficiary counseling.

This is a remote work-from-home position. Candidates may work from a home office anywhere within the state of Wisconsin. Reliable high-speed internet access is required. Office space is available in Madison if the candidate prefers to work in an office setting. Occasional overnight travel to Madison, Milwaukee, or other locations within the state may be required. View the complete job description here:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2007531>

This position includes full employee benefits including health insurance, paid time off, long-term disability, short-term disability, life insurance, a flexible spending account, and a generous retirement employer contribution and match.

Resumes sent without a cover letter will not be considered. The position will remain open until filled. Send cover letter and resume to the following:

Attorney Kate Schilling, Legal Services Manager
Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources
1414 MacArthur Road, Suite A
Madison, WI 53714
Email: Kate.schilling@gwaar.org

GWAAR is proud to be an equal opportunity employer committed to hiring a diverse and inclusive workforce. GWAAR provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and employment applicants without regard to unlawful considerations of sex, sexual orientation, gender (including gender identity and/or expression), pregnancy, race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, religion or similar philosophical beliefs, disability, marital and civil union status, age, genetic information, veteran status or any personal attribute or characteristic that is protected by applicable local, state or federal laws.

How Community-Based Organizations Address Social Needs Through Contracts with Health Care

USAging has developed a flyer to explain and share facts about how aging and disability Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) address social needs through contracts with health care. To view the flyer and facts on this increasing development, visit <https://bit.ly/3SEQTUR>.

CBOs Provide a Variety of Services Through Health Care Contracts

42% of CBOs with contracts provide assessments or screenings for health-related social needs, such as food security, access to safe and affordable housing, and transportation. Other contracted services frequently include:

- Care transitions services
- Home care services (including participant-directed care)
- Assessment for Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) eligibility
- Care coordination, case management and person-centered planning
- Nutrition
- Evidence-based programs for chronic disease management, fall prevention and mental health
- Transportation

And many more...

Business Opportunity: Wisconsin Researchers Receive \$3 Million Grant to Help Women with Bladder Health

University of Wisconsin–Madison, in partnership with the Medical College of Wisconsin and MetaStar, Inc. has received one of five grants funded nationally to support primary care practices to improve screening and treatment for urinary incontinence in women. The research is funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and is the latest in a series of large multi-center grants to support primary care quality improvement efforts EvidenceNOW: Managing Urinary Incontinence | Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (ahrq.gov).

The three-year research project started in February 2022 and will be enrolling primary care practices across WI for the next six months. To learn more, visit <https://www.obgyn.wisc.edu/intuit#learnMore>

Advocacy

[Janet Zander](#), Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator

Nice to Know

Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

On Sun., Aug. 7, 2022, the U.S. Senate passed legislation called the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (<https://bit.ly/3vOmlkf>). The new legislation is a much less robust and less expensive version of the earlier Build Back Better act that stalled in the U.S. Senate this past fall/winter. That said, this package would positively impact older adults in several ways, including:

- Enabling Medicare to negotiate prices of some prescription drugs. This would take effect in 2026 and would save an estimated \$288 billion over the next 10 years (2023 through 2032, though the savings would all be achieved between 2026 and 2032).
- Capping out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors at \$2,000/yr., including a \$35/month cap on insulin costs.
- Requiring drug companies to offer a rebate to Medicare if they try to raise the price of their drugs at a rate faster than inflation.
- Stabilizing Part D premiums for seniors in Medicare. The proposal holds annual premium growth to existing levels.
- Expanding premium and co-pay assistance on prescription drugs for low-income individuals. Currently, the low-income subsidy program (LIS) under Medicare Part D is fully available to all seniors earning less than 135% of the federal poverty level, and partially available to seniors earning less than 150% of the federal policy level. The bill eliminates the partial subsidy status, giving those seniors the full low-income subsidy under Medicare Part D.
- Making all vaccines free in Medicare for seniors.
- Extending Affordable Care Act changes for an additional three years (through 2025) that: a) eliminated premiums for about 7 million people, b) extended premium tax credits to people between 400% & 600% of FPL, and c) are estimated to cost \$64 billion during the next three years.

In addition, the package contains climate and tax provisions. The proposal's two main tax components would re-build the IRS and impose a 15% Corporate Minimum Tax. The IRS funding is aimed at improving taxpayer compliance. The legislation is expected to either reduce or have no effect on the taxes due or paid by any family with income less than \$400,000.

The legislation was passed in the Senate through a process called reconciliation, in which they only need a simple majority to pass. The bill is now expected to move quickly, with the House potentially voting by the end of the week. Stay tuned for updates.

ACTION: To reduce the costs of health insurance and prescription drugs for older Wisconsinites, contact your U.S. Representative (see Wisconsin Members of the 117th Congress) and urge him/her to support the Inflation

Reduction Act of 2022. To find out who represents you in the U.S. House of Representatives go to: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative> and type your zip code in the white box next to “Enter your ZIP code.”

Family Caregiver Support

[Bryn Ceman](#), Older Americans Act Consultant - Family Caregiver Support Specialist

Nice to Know

Family Council Free Zoom Meetings!

Courtesy of the Long-Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC), nursing home family councils have a new way to meet, a free Zoom room. Council meetings throughout the country can be organized without time limits by visiting this LTCCC Zoom Long Term Care Community Coalition (LTCCC) by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/r/LTCCC-family-council and completing the form at least one week prior to the meeting. The form reads, “We are pleased to support family councils and family member meetings. Please complete the below brief form so that we can set up a Zoom meeting for you. Family members can attend these meetings via phone or video conference on their computer, phone, or tablet. A form must be completed at least one week prior to the meeting.” Seems like a great resource for families and caregivers who may be spread out throughout the state or country and looking to have a way to connect with one another and with their loved on in the nursing home.

Health Promotion

[Angie Sullivan](#), Older Americans Act Consultant - Health Promotions Specialist

Nice to Know

OAA Title III-D Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Orientation

Thursday, August 11, 2022 | 9:00 a.m.

Are you new to the Wisconsin Aging Network or need a refresher on the provisions and priorities of Older Americans Act Title III-D Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Orientation? Directors, Supervisors, Health Promotion Coordinators and other staff; all are welcome.

The orientation provides a brief overview of the provisions and priorities of the Older Americans Act, brief description on the role of the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, funding requirements for III-D, qualifying Health Promotion Programs and other resources to assist your county in implementing health promotion programs to older adults in your community. To register, please send Angie Sullivan, angela.sullivan@gwaar.org, an email to confirm your spot or if you have any questions.

Zoom meeting link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86067113549?pwd=QmgvWERZVW5Vb28yT1V2N09ROFRFCz09>

Meeting ID: 860 6711 3549

Passcode: 933266

Nutrition

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

Need to Know

Reminder: 2022 Eat Well, Age Well Materials

Find all the 2022 Eat Well, Age Well materials on SharePoint at

<https://bit.ly/3SpKRYk>.

You can also share the materials directly from our website at

<https://gwaar.org/eat-well-age-well>



Nice to Know

Free Food Safety Publications for Nutrition Staff and Consumers

Please visit the USDA website to find a list of Food Safety Brochures and Publications. Here are the titles of some of the items available to pique your interest.

- Kitchen Companion: Your Safe Food Handbook
- Let Me Tell You How My Dad Got Sick
- Food Safety A Need-To-Know Guide for Those at Risk
- Food Safe Families Brochure (English and Spanish)
- A Consumer's Guide to Severe Storms and Hurricanes (English and Spanish)
- Food Safe Families Activity Book (English and Spanish)
- Is It Done Yet? Magnet
- Cooking for Groups (English and Spanish)

To download the materials, visit <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/food-safety/safe-food-handling-and-preparation/brochures-publications>.

To order hard copies of publications, visit https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/2022-06/FSIS_Publication_Request_Document.pdf.

Reminder: Beneficial Bites Nutrition Education Resource

Remember that Barron County has Free Nutrition Education materials that you can use. Their Beneficial Bites programs include easy recipes, cooking demonstrations and taste-testing. Please share with your local Registered Dietitians and site managers and use these at your sites. Have fun while you learn how to work new foods into your meals! All of the materials have been reviewed and approved by a dietitian. Creating an annual Nutrition Education Training plan is a great idea. Be sure to involve your Nutrition Advisory Council and your local RD. Here is a sample Nutrition education plan: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007512>

You can find the 2020-2022 materials on their website at https://www.adrconnections.org/programs-and-services/nutrition_1.

There are also several years of archived materials on the GWAAR website at https://gwaar.org/beneficial-bites_1.

Thank you, Barron County, for developing and sharing these outstanding nutrition education resources! If you have any questions, please reach out to the GWAAR Nutrition Team.