



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources

GWAAR News

Nice to Know

Reminder: 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.

Advocacy

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

Nice to Know

President Biden Signs Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

On August 16, the President signed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (<https://www.democrats.senate.gov/inflation-reduction-act-of-2022>) into law. This legislation was passed (on party-line votes) by the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this month.

As noted in earlier articles, this legislative package will reduce the costs of health insurance and prescription drugs for older Wisconsinites in several significant ways, including:

- Enabling Medicare to negotiate prices of some Part B and Part D prescription drugs (10 drugs in 2026, 15 additional drugs in 2027 and 15 in 2028, and 20 drugs in 2029). The number of prescription drugs negotiated will accumulate over this time, so by 2029 up to 60 drugs could be negotiated.
- Requiring Medicare to cover select insulin products with no deductible applied and cost-sharing set at no more than \$35 for a 30-day supply or 25 percent of the negotiated price (including all discounts – beginning in July 2023).
- Capping out-of-pocket drug costs for seniors at \$2,000/yr. (beginning in 2025) and eliminating cost sharing in the catastrophic phase (in 2024).
- 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 percent of the federal poverty level, and partially available to seniors earning less than 150 percent of the federal policy level. The bill eliminates the partial subsidy status, giving those seniors the full low-income subsidy under Medicare Part D.
- Requiring Medicare Part D provide full coverage, without cost sharing, of all Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)-recommended vaccines for plan years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2023.
- Extending Temporary Assistance for Marketplace coverage for an additional 3 years. Extends the American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA) expansion of Advanced Premium Tax Credit eligibility and amounts through 2025.

Guardianship and Voting: Preserving and Restoring the Right to Vote

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 | 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Join us on Zoom to learn about voting rights for people under guardianship. We will discuss how voting rights are addressed in the guardianship process, and the process for restoring the right to vote. This training will provide information to support people with disabilities and older adults to retain or restore their voting rights.

Registration is required for this Zoom event.

Program Highlights

- How I Got My Right to Vote Back, a video message from Jennifer Kratsch, voter and self-advocate

**GUARDIANSHIP AND
VOTING:
PRESERVING AND RESTORING
THE RIGHT TO VOTE**

SEPTEMBER 14 | 11:30AM - 12:30AM



- Retaining & Restoring the Right to Vote: Ellen Henningsen, Director, Voting Rights & Guardianship Project, Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW)

Panel and Moderated Questions:

- Mitch Hagopian, Managing Attorney, DRW
- Peter Navis, Judicial Court Commissioner, Walworth County

Register now: <https://drwi-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvduyhrDsrG9baKpXUAKPd4t3Gjul-WlsY>

- ASL Interpreters and captioning will be provided. Other accommodations may be requested when registering.
- View and share the Zoom event flyer (accessible PDF): <https://disabilityrightswi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Guardianship-and-Restoration-Flyer-acc.pdf>
- Event information is on our website at: <https://disabilityrightswi.org/event/guardianship-and-voting-preserving-and-restoring-the-right-to-vote/>
- Polly Shoemaker, Wisconsin Guardianship Support Center Attorney

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

Training to Assist with Durable and Health Power of Attorney Documents

Thursday, August 25 | 10 a.m.

Polly Shoemaker, GWAAR’s Guardianship Support Center Managing Attorney will be presenting on Durable and Health Power of Attorneys. This training is geared toward professional Aging Unit and Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) staff. Specifically, as a Caregiver Coordinator you will learn how to guide caregivers, care recipients, and family members in completion of the documents and how to use the documents in care management, follow up, and future planning.

Microsoft Teams meeting link: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzVjM2I2YtEtNzEwMy00ZmI1LTkwOTgtOWRjOGZhODkzNTEz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%228e087664-409d-4c4c-a6b4-7aa01020d6ea%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22394578c8-c741-45f1-a9f0-7518f82bcdcb%22%7d

Or call in (audio only): (877) 565-2671, Phone Conference ID: 118 451 988#

Calling All Professional Caregiver Coordinators – We Need You!

We need your success stories, we need your know-how, we need your ideas and experiences using AF/NFCSP grant funds!!

1. How do you know your work makes a difference?
2. Do you have a caregiver or professional success story? (This is the time to “toot your own horn!”)
3. What are the best ways you’ve found to spend your NF/AFCSP grant dollars, especially with the shortage of respite care options?
4. New Coordinators want to know how you do your job each day? How do you stay organized?
5. What do you wish you would have known or had been taught when first being trained in your role as a CG Coordinator?



6. What are helpful hints and tips for other CG Coordinators who have been doing this work for 1 year or for 10 years?

All this and more to be shared during Septembers CG Support Community Statewide Call.

****Email Bryn (Bryn.Ceman@gwaar.org) with your topics, stories, and ideas. We'll be sure you get time on our September meeting agenda.****

THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO EACH and EVERY DAY!

Nice to Know

Reminder: 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.

Free Assistance Available to Manage Bills for those with Dementia

If you are working with a caregiver of someone with Alzheimer's or dementia and know they need assistance managing the bills here is a great free resource. The National Institutes of Health has provided funding to SilverBills for 150 caregivers to receive free SilverBills services for 1 year. See the flyer (<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007540>) or visit the website www.silverbills.com for more information. Call (855) 553-7330 or email NIHStudy@silverbills.com with referrals. If there are grant funds available for your caregivers after the one free year of services OR if the 150 slots have already been taken you can pay for SilverBills services if it's determined to be a need.

Health Promotion

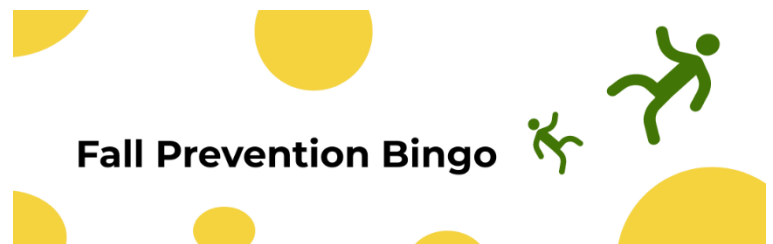
[Angie Sullivan](#), *Older Americans Act Consultant - Health Promotions Specialist*

Nice to Know

Fall Prevention Bingo

September is Fall Prevention Awareness Month. What better way to celebrate than with a game of Bingo? Fall Prevention Bingo is a fun and engaging educational tool that can be used to improve knowledge of fall risks among older adults. Fall Prevention Bingo is played like traditional Bingo, except the bingo numbers have been replaced with evidence-based fall prevention information.

Download the free Fall Prevention Bingo word sheets, bingo cards and the instruction sheet:



- Fall Prevention Bingo Site <https://starklab.wustl.edu/resources/fall-prevention-bingo/>
- Bingo Word Sheets <https://starklab.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/FPB-flipped-no-numbers.pdf>
- Bingo Cards <https://starklab.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/FPBcards.pdf>
- Instructions https://starklab.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/fpb-final_50893813-compressed.pdf

Development of Fall Prevention Bingo was supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Health Promotion Webinar Recording Available Now

In case you missed it, the August 9th Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar recording is now available on the GWAAR website. The webinar featured presentations on Creating and Sustaining Community Fall Prevention Coalitions and Community Health Workers 101. In addition, important updates from GWAAR and WIHA were shared. To view the recording, visit <https://gwaar.org/08-09-22-quarterly-health-promotion-webinar-falls-prevention-community-health-worker>.

Nutrition

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

Nice to Know

Complimentary Webinar Presentation | Aging Solo

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 | Noon to 1 pm CT | Includes 1 complimentary CE credit*

Nearly 27 percent of Americans over the age of 65 live alone. While this population shares the same concerns and challenges of other older adults aging with a partner or children—clinicians, home health aides, social workers, and senior service providers need to be alert to the issues unique to those patients and clients who are aging solo. For instance, maintaining independence, safeguarding health, fostering physical and mental activity, building a supportive network, socialization and relationships, financial planning, and having access to transportation can require more detailed and advanced planning and execution for adults aging solo.

In anticipation of a growing population of adults aging solo, whether childless or living at a distance from their adult children, clinicians and senior providers must understand the complexities and barriers to serving this population to provide ideal care. Furthermore, it's even more important to educate patients, clients, and even caregivers on strategies that promote successful solo aging.

In this timely and practical webinar, Carol Marak will help clinicians expand their understanding of issues and challenges unique to adults aging solo, as well as give them a broader understanding of what is required when evaluating the care plans of adults aging solo.

Participants in this webinar will be able to:

1. Define aging solo and the rate at which this community is growing.
2. Recognize the risks and challenges seniors face in aging solo.
3. Discuss the different planning strategies to proactively prepare for aging solo.

Register Now: https://www.rightathome.net/professionals/continuing-education-units/aging-solo?utm_source=tgm&utm_medium=eblast&utm_content=aging_solo&utm_campaign=webinarpromos

Free Downloadable Nutrition Education and Tip Sheets from The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has created a number of handouts that members can use for client educational resources as well as flyers that can be used to highlight the expertise of registered dietitian nutritionists. Consider adding some of these to your Welcome Packets for new participants, distribute to caregivers, and give out as a follow up to Malnutrition Awareness Week.



These materials are available online: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/career-development/marketing-center/eat-right-nutrition-tips-and-handouts>

Eating Right for Older Adults (https://www.eatrightpro.org/-/media/feature/eatright/campaign/nnm-2022/tip_sheets/eating-right-tips-for-older-adults-nnm22_english.pdf?la=en&hash=79A4C2ACA06805EF98401E18D3D8BE727EECB941) is a nice summary document