



Dear Community Partner,

Celebrated throughout November, **National Family Caregiver Month** is a chance to recognize the estimated **580,000** Wisconsin caregivers and appreciate the **490 million hours** of unpaid care provided annually. [Wisconsin Family & Caregiver Support Alliance \(WFACSA\)](#) is a team of professionals and family caregivers who work to address family caregivers' needs and who celebrate caregivers during November's National Family Caregiver Month. WFACSA Steering Committee Organizations include the:

- [Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources \(BADR\)](#),
- [Wisconsin Board for People with Development Disabilities \(BPDD\)](#),
- [WisconsinSibs, Inc.](#), [Respite Care Association of Wisconsin \(RCAW\)](#),
 - [Community Living Alliance](#),
- [Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resource, Inc. \(GWAAR\)](#).

In preparation for National Family Caregiver Month, our Alliance has crafted this **Statewide Toolkit** highlighting education, resources, and supports to improve advocacy, increase access, and sustain Wisconsin families into the future. The **Toolkit** follows the 2022 joint National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. The [National Strategy](#) was created to support family caregivers of all ages, from youth to grandparents, regardless of where they live or what caregiving looks like for them and their loved ones.

Toolkit focus areas & weekly themes, each week is an active link:

1. [Nov 01 to Nov 06 – Helping Caregivers Self Identify](#). Materials and content to help family caregivers answer the question, “Am I a caregiver?” Week one’s materials include a caregiver [survey](#) & press release. You are welcome to use the press release partially or in its entirety for your local newspaper(s).
2. [Nov 07 to Nov 13 – Relative & Grandparent Caregivers](#). Materials and content to recognize our state’s relative caregivers and efforts to understand their unique needs. This week’s content includes Siblings’ Choice Awards sponsored by WisconsinSibs, Inc.
3. [Nov 14 to Nov 20 – Employed Family Caregivers](#). Materials and content to support, promote, and increase the sustainability of working caregivers. This information includes an Exemplary Employer Award as well as resources for employers on how to identify & support working family caregivers, including the positive financial impact of attracting and retaining family caregivers as employees.
4. [Nov 21 to Nov 30 – Underserved Communities](#). Materials and content to support Native American, Asian American, Black, Children / Parents / Siblings, Hispanic & Latino, Kin & Grandparent, LGBTQIA, and rural family caregivers.

We are sharing the **Statewide Toolkit** with Tribal and County Aging Units (T/AUs), Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs), Caregiver Coalitions, Senior Centers, Boards, family caregivers, non-profit agencies, legislatures, and

other partners in hopes that some or all the information can be used to reach family caregivers in your communities. You are welcome to replicate the content in your newsletters & on your social media platforms and websites. You may also share content directly from [Wisconsin's Family Caregiver Support Programs Facebook page](#). If you are posting to your social media platform, don't forget to use [@WisconsinFamilyCaregiver](#) in the text of the posting, this generates more views to promote the campaign. You are encouraged to share this **Toolkit** with anyone you feel would benefit.

Lastly, two pieces are missing from the **Toolkit** simply because they are not yet available. 2022's Gubernatorial Proclamation has yet to be shared. There is a placeholder for this on Tuesday, November 1st. 2022's Siblings Choice Award has yet to be announced. There are placeholders for the award to be shared on Sunday, November 12th & Thursday, November 24th. As these pieces become available, a follow-up email will be sent. Once again, you can also follow our [@WisconsinFamilyCaregiver](#) & share content directly from this page.

Respectfully,

WFACSA Steering Committee