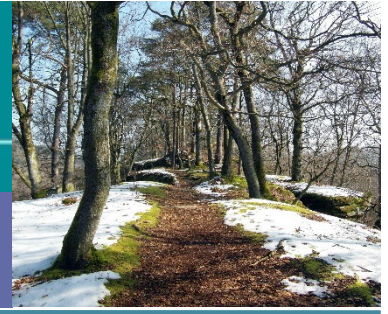




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Advocacy

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

Need to Know

Four Public Hearings Scheduled by JFC

The Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC), Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) and Representative Mark Born (R-Beaver Dam) announced four public hearings related to the State Budget yesterday.

The public hearing schedule is:

- Wednesday, April 5, 2023 Waukesha County Expo Center, Main Arena 1000 Northview Rd, Waukesha
- Tuesday, April 11, 2023 UW-Eau Claire, Davies Student Center Ojibwe Grand Ballroom (Third Floor) 77 Roosevelt Ave., Eau Claire
- Wednesday, April 12, 2023 Wilderness Resort, Glacier Canyon Conference Center Sandstone Meeting Room 45 Hillman Road, Wisconsin Dells
- Wednesday, April 26, 2023 Lakeland Union High School 9573 State Highway 70, Minocqua

The public hearings will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. Attendees will be asked to fill out a form upon arrival to be added to the queue to testify. The JFC has also created an online portal for constituents to provide input. All entries will be circulated to the full committee: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/> The JFC has also developed a dedicated email address for input only: budget.comments@legis.wisconsin.gov and all emails will be circulated to the full committee.

There are no virtual public hearings scheduled.

Please share this information with others who will be making plans to testify at a hearing or submit written testimony.

Nice to Know

Caregiver Crisis Coalition of Wisconsin 2023-2025 State Budget Recommendations

In the recent years, it has become clear that the biggest threat to the lives of older adults and people with disabilities in Wisconsin who need long-term care services is the Caregiver Crisis: an increasingly acute shortage of caregivers in every sector of the long-term care system. This crisis is impacting every community in Wisconsin, but it is particularly severe in many rural areas.

The Caregiver Crisis Coalition of Wisconsin (of which GWAAR is a member) is calling on the state legislature to take serious action now in this state budget to reverse the ominous trend which is putting more Wisconsin residents at risk every year. Unless the landscape for caregivers improves substantially in the 2023-2025 biennium, it is virtually certain that negative trends (i.e. shortage of caregivers, quality of caregivers, etc.), will

continue to grow. See the Wisconsin Caregiver Crisis Coalition webpage:

<https://www.wiworkforcealliance.com/caregiver-crisis>.

Your help is needed to improve the caregiver crisis!

Read the full Caregiver Crisis Coalition of Wisconsin's Budget Proposal

(https://www.wiworkforcealliance.com/files/ugd/5411ca_8289aa61fab847ecac085aeae5428698.pdf) then follow the action steps to advocate to your legislators!

Download the Wisconsin Long-Term Care Workforce Alliance's Legislator Alert Message form.

The Legislator Alert Message form

(https://www.wiworkforcealliance.com/files/ugd/5411ca_8f6835b1769c444ba97bd8c20bbd1a4e.pdf) is an easy way for you to share your story with your local legislator. You can download the form, complete your personal message, and save the completed form. Feel free to reference any of the points mentioned in the Caregiver Crisis Coalition Budget Proposal. Personal stories are also very powerful, so please include any personal messages. After your message is complete you can save it and send it to your legislator as an email attachment or you can print your message and mail it in a regular envelope to your legislator.

How to find your Legislators:

Go to the Wisconsin State Legislature website (<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>) and enter your address under "Who Are My Legislators."

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

Reminder: Feedback Needed by March 17 on New Family Caregiver Support Program Chapter of Wisconsin Aging Operations Manual

The opportunity to provide feedback on the new Family Caregiver Support Program Chapter of the Wisconsin Aging Operations Manual (<http://bit.ly/3IXZeIQ>) is now available. Comments are being collected electronically through a Family Caregiver Support Chapter Survey on the BADR SharePoint site. (SharePoint access is required)

The survey closes on Friday, March 17th, 2023.

The caregiver support chapter is part of a wider effort within the State Office on Aging to update all aging policies for an Aging Operations Manual, which will replace the outdated Wisconsin Aging Programs Policy and Procedures Manual published in 2011. ADRC Directors, Aging Directors, AAA staff, and Caregiver Support Program Coordinators are invited to begin the review process by providing comments on one or more sections of this chapter, or by leaving a general comment: <https://bit.ly/3ELpKdM>

Questions about the Family Caregiver Support chapter of the Aging Operations Manual can be directed to the Caregiver Support Program Manager, Lynn Gall at Lynn.Gall@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Health Promotion

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

Nice to Know

Reminder: Now Recruiting for Upcoming Facilitator Training!

Stand Up and Move More is a sedentary behavior reduction program shown to reduce sedentary behavior by sixty two minutes/day after the four-week program. The Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) is currently recruiting for an April facilitator training. If you or someone you know may be interested, please share the information regarding the upcoming training. To learn more and register, please visit the WIHA Website at:

<https://wihealthyaging.org/for-professionals/become-a-facilitator/>.



Nutrition

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

Nice to Know

ACL Hosting “Cooking Up Community” to Celebrate Senior Nutrition Program

March 22 | 1:00 p.m.

Join the Office of Nutrition and Health Promotion Programs for a virtual celebration recognizing the program's impact and discussing how to continue innovating to advance the critical services the program provides to older adults. Register today at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bLKi0ztDTdeUOsbvY-rq6Q.

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)

[Ingrid A. Kunding](#), Senior Medicare Patrol Project Manager

Nice to Know

March Issue of Wisconsin SMP’s The Scoop Now Available

The Wisconsin SMP’s newsletter, The Scoop, March 2023 edition is now available: <https://www.smpwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/SMP-Scoop-Newsletter-March-2023.pdf>. Please feel free to share this resource with those you think might benefit from the information provided. All information included in this newsletter is available for reprint. Please contact Ingrid Kunding, ingrid.kunding@gwaar.org, if you would like to use any of the information or have any questions.

New Fact Sheet Available

The Wisconsin SMP have a new resource available, an updated Wisconsin SMP Fact Sheet: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007741>. This fact sheet can be shared with Medicare beneficiaries and their advocates, informing them about the work of the SMP and how we can help.