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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

Reminder: 2024 Aging Network Food Service Request for Proposals

GWAAR is excited to announce the 2024 Aging Network Food Service Proposal, “Let’s Build the Future Meal Program Together” with Sustainable Kitchens - Request for Proposal. Work with Sustainable Kitchens to evaluate and bring sustainability to your nutrition program! **Proposals are due by August 25, 2023.**

If you have sent a previous Request for Proposal, we are asking that you **reapply this year with a new application**. Contact your GWAAR Nutrition Representative if you have any questions.

Read the 2024 Aging Network Food Service Request for Proposals:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007818>

View the State Population Map: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007817>

Advocacy

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

Need to Know

State Advocacy Action Alert – Healthy Aging Grants Legislation

Good news! Senator Feyen and Representative Rozar have agreed to sponsor Healthy Aging Grants (HAG) legislation (draft proposal LRB-3411). This legislation would provide \$378,000 in annual funding to support the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging’s (WIHA) Falls Free Wisconsin initiative as well as their healthy aging programs and practices. Funding would go to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for distribution.

Take Action:

WIHA (and the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network – WAAN) encourage you to contact your state senator and state representative and ask them to co-sponsor LRB-3411 Healthy Aging Grants (or let them know how community members in their district would benefit from these programs and services). **The co-sponsorship deadline is Friday, Aug. 18 at 5 p.m.**

To find out who your state representative or senator is go to: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>. Enter your home address in the “Who Are My Legislators?” box. **Please send an email asking your senator and representative to co-sponsor and support Healthy Aging Grants LRB-3411.**

wiha

Wisconsin Institute
for Healthy Aging

WAN Advocacy
Wisconsin Aging
| Advocacy | Network

Senators: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/legislators/senate>

Representatives: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2023/legislators/assembly>

For more information see the Healthy Aging Grants Issue Brief located on the WAAN webpage:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007834>

It can also be located on this page under the State – General Information heading: <https://gwaar.org/issues-and-initiatives>

Thank you for your help in securing this critical funding. Please share this message with others and encourage them to contact their state legislators too!

Federal Advocacy Action Alert – FY 2024 Older Americans Act (OAA) Funding

Late last month, the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee advanced its fiscal year (FY) 2024 Labor-Health and Human Services (HHS)-Education appropriations bill. The Senate bill reduces the U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL) funding by more than \$40 million from their FY 2023 levels. The FY 2024 bill keeps most OAA funding at FY 2023 levels, with only Title III nutrition programs receiving changes (increases and decreases) over last year's levels. Specifically, the bill calls for an increase of \$25 million for Title III C-1 congregate meals, a \$15 million increase for Title III C-2 home-delivered meals, and a **decrease of \$48 million in the Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)**. **The nutrition program funding levels result in a \$8 million cut in overall funding.**

The House Appropriations Committee has also marked up its Labor-HHS appropriations bill but has not released any details specific to OAA and other aging services funding. Details of the House bill are not expected to be released until September, when Congress returns from its month-long August recess. House funding levels are not expected to be much better than the mostly-level funded Senate bill and could be worse in some cases. Differences between the House and Senate spending packages are unlikely to be resolved by the end of the federal fiscal year (Sept. 30) and continuing resolutions (CRs) are likely to be necessary to keep the government running starting on Oct. 1, 2023.

Take Action:

Members of Congress are in recess for the month of August and are spending time back in their districts. **Now is a great time to reach out to our U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson and your U.S. Representative to ask them to oppose harmful cuts to OAA programs in FY 24.** Help your federal elected officials learn more about your programs and funding needs firsthand, consider inviting your federal legislators to join you for a site visit, ride-along, or event (volunteer recognition, summer picnic, etc.).

Find contact information for your legislators here:

[Wisconsin Members of the 118th Congress](https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697)

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697>

If you are unsure who your U.S. Representative is, go to the link below and enter your home address ZIP code in the box on the upper right-hand side of the page.

<https://www.house.gov/representatives>

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

Reminder: Caregiver Support Community Statewide Webinar

August 22 | 10 a.m.

Join us for the August Caregiver Support Community Statewide Webinar August 22. This meeting will include an Advocacy Update, Department of Health Services and GWAAR updates. For more information, visit <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007819>

Reminder: Statewide Caregiver Coordinator Statewide Meeting (in-person)

September 26 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We will hold an in-person meeting on September 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the ADRC of Portage County: 1519 Water Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481. A light lunch will be provided.

Please take 30 seconds to RSVP for our in-person Statewide Caregiver Coordinator meeting on Tuesday, September 26. Thank you for your help!

RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/GXwTBut72h>

Nice to Know

Motivational Interviewing webinar August 17

Resources for Integrated Care (RIC) is hosting a webinar on Motivational Interviewing to Improve Care Coordination and Address Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) on Thursday, August 17, 2023 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Use this link to learn more or register: <https://bit.ly/444Y25s>



This webinar will:

- Explore how Motivational Interviewing (MI) can improve communication in integrated care settings and improve relationships between health plans, providers, and members dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid.
- Promote the increased use of MI and person-centered techniques to better engage members and understand the complex lifestyle factors that impact health behaviors.
- Encourage the improvement of member retention rates, as well as health outcomes, for individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid.

Featured speakers:

- Brandon G. Wilson, DrPH, Director, Center for Consumer Engagement in Health Innovation, Community Catalyst
- Gladys Antelo-Allen, LPN, Associate Director of Education and Training, Camden Coalition
- Brian Thompson, Housing Coordinator, Care Management Initiatives, Camden Coalition

This webinar is intended for a wide range of stakeholders, including community-based organizations, health plans, health care providers, caregivers, and others who serve dually eligible individuals.

CART will be provided. For accessibility questions, contact RIC@lewin.com.

Want to help fellow Caregivers of loved ones with Multiple Sclerosis?

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley is seeking family or information caregivers of persons with multiple sclerosis to help others understand the impact of caregiving and what is needed to mediate both the physical and emotional challenges caregivers encounter.

If you are an informal or family caregiver of a person or persons with MS, are 18 years or older and have been providing unpaid care for at least 6 months then you can contribute!

After completing your survey, you will be provided a link redirecting you to a separate survey link where you can enter a drawing to win one of ten \$25 Amazon gift cards.

https://utrgv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02gU1onP4dqtKsK?Q_CHL=qr

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society has resources for you as a care partner, learn more here:

<https://www.nationalmssociety.org/Living-Well-With-MS/Relationships/Family-Matters/Carepartners>



WANT TO HELP FELLOW MS CAREGIVERS?

Seeking MS caregivers to take part in an important online survey.

What is this study about?
This study aims to examine the impacts of caregiving and social support on stress among unpaid informal caregivers of persons with multiple sclerosis.

Why participate?

- Sharing your experience will help us understand the impact of caregiving and what is needed to mediate both the physical and emotional challenges caregivers encounter.
- To compensate for your contribution, after completing your survey, you will be provided an anonymous link to a separate survey where you can voluntarily enter into a drawing to win one of ten \$25 Amazon eGift cards.

Who can participate?

- Adults 18 years or older.
- Individuals providing unpaid caregiving to a family member or friend with MS & must have at least six months of experience.

If you're interested in participating, please click on the online survey link or scan the QR code

https://utrgv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02gU1onP4dqtKsK

CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Jacqueline Mercado, PhD candidate, LDC-C
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(959)353-6091

UTRGV IRB-23-0214

Health Promotion

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

Nice to Know

In Case You Missed it...Health Promotion Webinar

On Tuesday, August 1 the Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar was held. The Wisconsin Institute on Healthy Aging shared important updates on their Falls Free Wisconsin Initiative. Learn about customizable turnkey materials to use not only in September for Falls Prevention month, but year-round. The Wisconsin Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness also presented their findings on the pilot testing the integration of the 3-Item UCLA Social Isolation and Loneliness Screening tool.

Watch the replay here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLz9uZ9rmG8>

Senior Centers

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

Nice to Know

National Senior Center Month is almost here!

Join the National Council on Aging (NCOA) online Sept. 29, 2023 from 12-3 p.m. as they celebrate senior centers!

Featuring updates from the Modernizing Senior Centers

Resource Center including: insights from The State of Today's Senior Centers: Successes, Challenges, and Opportunities; information about resources you can use, and an opportunity for small group networking with your colleagues!

Register for the free event here:

<https://connect.ncoa.org/products/virtual-senior-center-summit-discover-yours>

