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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Nice to Know

Accepting Applications: GWAAR 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 see the following and apply.

View the application: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005628>

If you have any questions about volunteering on the Advisory Council, please contact Nick Musson at nick.musson@gwaar.org.

Save the Date! Next Virtual ACE Meeting happening in October!

- Wednesday, October 11 | 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- (Calendar invitation, link and agenda sent by Rosanna Mazzara next month (Rosanna.Mazzara@gwaar.org))



Advocacy

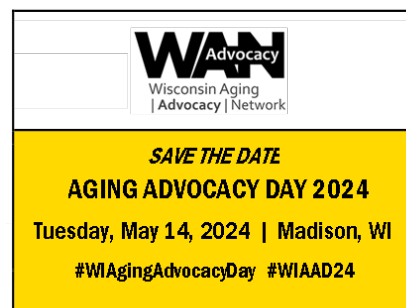
[Janet Zander](#), Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator

Need to Know

Reminder: Aging Advocacy Day Save the Date – Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Join us for the 8th annual Aging Advocacy Day! Advocates from around the state will gather to help educate state legislators about issues affecting older adults and caregivers in Wisconsin. No experience necessary; training is provided.

Morning training at the Best Western Premier Park Hotel, 22 S. Carroll St., Madison and afternoon visits with your legislators/key staff members at the Wisconsin State Capitol. We will also be working with local aging network partners to schedule and host follow up in-district meeting opportunities over the summer of 2024. View the save the date here: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007839>



Nice to Know

Voting Listening Session Invitation for September 11, 2023

The United States Attorney's Office for the Western and Eastern Districts of Wisconsin and the Department of Justice's Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division are hosting a Voting Listening Session on September 11, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. via WebEx or in person at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Wisconsin at 517 E. Wisconsin Ave, Room 630, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The purpose of the listening session is to hear from advocates, faith leaders, and individuals about experiences with any barriers faced by individuals with disabilities in the voting process, including in registering to vote, obtaining voting or election information, voting absentee, voting in person, polling place accessibility, or receiving assistance in voting.

To ensure enough time is reserved for speakers, **anyone wishing to speak is asked to send an email to: Charlotte.Lanvers@usdoj.gov by Fri., Sept. 8, 2023.** Time in the session will also be reserved for audience questions and additional sharing of experiences. Any questions regarding the session can also be directed to the email address above.

The event will be a hybrid virtual and in person event held via Zoom at the link below. ASL interpretation and closed captioning will be provided. **If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend, virtual or in-person, this presentation, please contact Diane Turner at crt.reasonableaccommodations@usdoj.gov by Tuesday, September 5, 2023.**

Please share this invitation with other interested advocates or individuals.

Zoom information:

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1609330358>

Meeting ID: 160 933 0358

One tap mobile

+16692545252,1609330358# US (San Jose)

+16468287666,1609330358# US (New York)

Meeting ID: 160 933 0358

Find your local number: <https://www.zoomgov.com/u/ac7ERpcAXg>

Join by SIP

- 1609330358@sip.zoomgov.com

Join by H.323

- 161.199.138.10 (US West)
- 161.199.136.10 (US East)

Meeting ID: 160 933 0358

Social Security Listening Tour Stop Near You

In an effort to learn what Wisconsinites think about the future of Social Security, AARP Wisconsin will be visiting dozens of communities across the state this summer and fall to talk face-to-face with residents about this critical issue.

AARP Wisconsin is hosting a series of Social Security listening sessions in several parts of the state and will have booths set up at various community fairs, health expos, and special events to inform Wisconsinites about the status of Social Security and empower them to share their opinions about how the program can be strengthened going forward to make it solvent for current and future generations.

Here are more details and links to register for the next three sessions to be held in:

- **Eau Claire: Sept. 12 at The Brewing Projekt.**
<https://local.aarp.org/aarp-event/aarp-wi-eau-claire-social-security-happy-hour-9122023-gnn88w2h9k8.html?>
- **Appleton: Sept. 19 at The Stone Arch Brewpub.**
<https://local.aarp.org/aarp-event/aarp-wi-appleton-social-security-happy-hour-9192023-vbn6p4sccm9.html>
- **Middleton: Sept. 26 at Capital Brewery.**
<https://local.aarp.org/aarp-event/aarp-wi-madison-social-security-happy-hour-9262023-vpn215wh62q.html>

These series of events are designed to gain insight from Wisconsin residents on their primary concerns, questions, and ideas regarding the future of Social Security. AARP invites all those interested in this topic and who have a desire to be involved in protecting Social Security to join us as we lay the groundwork for our future efforts.

You are encouraged to join AARP at their nearest listening session where you will have the opportunity to enjoy free food and drinks as they connect with others from their community on this important topic.

AARP WI will be there with information on how Social Security works, how people can maximize their benefit, and how they can fight to protect Social Security. We will also be looking to attendees to provide their insight as we lay the groundwork for our efforts to ensure that our elected officials here in Wisconsin fight for a robust and healthy Social Security program that is sustainable for many years to come.

In Wisconsin, more than one in five residents receive Social Security benefits. These payments inject more than \$22.2 billion into the state's economy every year. The largest group of beneficiaries in Wisconsin are its 950,000 retired workers, who account for 74.5 percent of all Social Security beneficiaries in the state.

Social Security also lifts more than 264,000 Wisconsinites aged 65 or older out of poverty. In fact, 33.5 percent of this state's residents in this age group would be in poverty if it weren't for their Social Security benefits. That number falls to 6.6 percent when Social Security income is included.

Please continue visiting www.aarp.org/wi throughout 2023 for an updated schedule of tour stops and links to register for these free listening sessions and booth appearances.

AARP Wisconsin events: www.aarp.org/wi



Family Caregiver Support

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

Nice to Know

September 6 webinar available: Children Living in Grandparent-Led and Multigenerational Families: Implications for Policy and Practice

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is hosting a webinar for professionals working with relative caregivers & children.

The number of children living in multigenerational households has been increasing steadily since the 1980s, and as of 2021, more than 10% of children (roughly seven and a half million) share a home with two or more generations. While the stays may be relatively short, overall, about 30% of children will live in a multigenerational or skipped-generation household at some point during their childhood. This is even more common for children of color and for those whose adult family members are low-income. In this webinar, the panelists will examine the scope of the issue and its implications for child well-being and security, as well as opportunities in policy and practice to support these children and their adult household members.

More information available here: <https://www.irp.wisc.edu/resource/children-living-in-grandparent-led-and-multigenerational-families-implications-for-policy-and-practice/>

Register for the September 6 webinar here: https://irpwisc.formstack.com/forms/multigenerational_families



Reminder: August 29 Memory Connections webinar

Join the National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC) for "Memory Connections: Helping Families Navigate Their Dementia Journey with a Menu of Program Options."

During this webinar, participants will learn about Memory Connections, an ACL-funded initiative through Senior Services Inc.

in North Carolina. Memory Connections is a multi-faceted project that offers support, creativity, education, and engaging activities for people living with dementia and their caregivers.



Register for the August 29 webinar here:

https://rtiorg.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_td_pCCi_TP-PHKUjmKP5Xw#/registration

Reminder: September 20 webinar: Expanding Dementia Capability in Indian Country

National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center has announced an "Expanding Dementia Capability in Indian Country: A case example from Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc."

Limited availability of dementia services in Tribal communities has resulted in many community members voicing their concerns about the need for assistance and education. To help fill this void, the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) is currently implementing services and supports for people living with dementia and their caregivers through ACL's Alzheimer's Disease Program Initiative (ADPI). The ITCA project is providing dementia specific evidence-based training, community-based education, resources, and music strategies in Tribal communities.

In this webinar, participants will learn how the ITCA ADPI project is empowering Tribal staff and community members to become involved in providing dementia education and awareness in their communities. In addition, the Banner Alzheimer's Institute, a collaborative partner to ITCA, will share information about the Walk with Me music program and how it can be used to increase the quality of life for someone living with dementia. Banner will explain how the Walk with Me CD was adapted to create education that is both experiential and impactful, and how music can be used as an important connection for people living with dementia and their caregivers.

Register for the September 20 webinar here:

https://rtiorg.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_e1yQJKI5Qt6S2x_HXgi5OA#/registration

Nutrition

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

Nice to Know

Register for Malnutrition Awareness Week Webinars

You can join free webinars during Malnutrition Awareness Week September 18-22 using our complimentary registration code (MAW-GWAAR). Check out the exciting line-up of webinars and review instructions for registering on nutritioncare.org/MAW.



Senior Centers

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

Nice to Know

WI Association of Senior Centers (WASC) Fall Conference on Sept. 27-29

The WI Association of Senior Centers (WASC) is celebrating their 40th Anniversary at their Fall Conference on Sept 27-29 in Fond du Lac at the Radisson.

The have an outstanding lineup of speakers. RSVP by September 1 for Early Bird pricing!

The final RSVP will be September 15 (not guaranteed fun extras). Register at this link:

<https://forms.gle/gjkwsvvp33cttF776>

- Early Bird for WASC members - \$125, Non-WASC - \$150,
- After Sept 1- WASC members - \$175, Non-WASC - \$200. .

You can view the conference schedule here:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaaid:sc:VA6C2:e4788c6d-289e-449f-a122-80f91985e6c7>



WASC

Wisconsin Association of Senior Centers

Social media guide available from National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC)

September is Senior Center Month! The National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC) has added a social media guide with some great videos to the Senior Center Month resources on their website.

<https://www.ncoa.org/page/national-senior-center-month>



Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

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

Nice to Know

In case you missed it: Senior Medicare Patrol in the news

Last month Ingrid Kunderer from the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) was interviewed about Medicare scams/fraud related to COVID-19 over-the-counter test kits.

Unfortunately, charges for unwanted COVID-19 tests continue to be an issue and many older adults are not aware of the fraudulent charges until they review their Medicare statements. If someone you know suspects their Medicare number may have been

compromised or suspect potential Medicare fraud, errors or abuse, they can contact the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) at 888-818-2611 to discuss the process of requesting a new Medicare number.

Visit the Senior Medicare Patrol website:

<https://www.smpwi.org/>

Watch the July 5 news story:

<https://www.fox6now.com/news/contact-6-medicare-fraud-unwanted-covid-tests>

