



Volume 5, No. 32 September 19, 2023
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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

2024 preliminary budget posting delayed

We will be delaying posting the 2024 preliminary budget as the state has indicated they are going to aim at sending us their estimated allocations in about two weeks. Once we have this, we will update the preliminary budget and post it then. We will also send out a notice once posted. Depending on the posting date we will review the deadline date and possibly adjust accordingly.

If you did not participate in the 2024 preliminary budget webinar, please review the webinar on the GWAAR Fiscal SharePoint site. After the review if you have any other questions, please feel free to reach out to our fiscal staff for assistance.

Fiscal staff contact information and a link to the Fiscal SharePoint site can be found on our website under Technical Assistance | Fiscal: <https://gwaar.org/fiscal-p>

Nice to Know

Reminder: Upcoming GWAAR Fiscal Webinar:

Compliance Issues (Sept. 21)

Register on the GWAAR Fiscal SharePoint site: <https://bit.ly/3rdZogX>

Reminder: Upcoming WellSky (SAMS) Webinars:

EOY Reporting Q&A – 3 sessions (Sept. 28, or Oct. 12)

Register on the GWAAR Data Management SharePoint site: <https://bit.ly/468PfAV>

Most webinar times and registration links can also be viewed in the September 5 issue of the Weekly Digest:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007865>

Reminder: Save the Date! Next Virtual ACE Meeting in October!

Wednesday, October 11 | 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

A Teams meeting invite was emailed out on September 14. An agenda will be sent as we get closer to the meeting date. Contact Rosanna Mazzara for invitation details.

(Rosanna.Mazzara@gwaar.org)

October 11 meeting link: <https://bit.ly/46IW5Dr>



Advocacy

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

Nice to Know

SeniorCare 100-day Supply of Prescription Drugs

Late this past spring, Rep. Hurd (R-Fall Creek) and Sen. Quinn (R-Cameron) introduced legislation that would allow SeniorCare participants to purchase, with a prescription order, a 100-day supply of certain maintenance medications (AB 259/ SB 263). The legislation requires the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to request a waiver of federal Medicaid laws from the federal government, if necessary.



During the COVID-19 public health emergency, SeniorCare participants were allowed to purchase 100-day supplies for certain prescription drugs instead of the 34-day supply normally allowed. SeniorCare participants found the temporary 100-day refill authorization to be beneficial as it reduced the number of trips to the pharmacy and reduced their co-pays. Prescriptions refilled every month require co-pays of \$5-\$15 each, which is a cost of between \$15 - \$45 per medication over the course of three months. During the public health emergency, SeniorCare participants could receive a 3-month supply for only \$5-\$15 per medication total. Though program revenue was decreased by the reduction in co-pays, any loss of funds was more than made up for by the reduction in dispensing fees to pharmacies; a win/win. Unfortunately, with the end of the public health emergency, 100-day refills are no longer permitted.

Last week, the Senate unanimously (33-0) passed SB 263 and messaged the bill to the Assembly. Rep. Hurd's office indicated the Assembly's Health, Aging and Long-Term Care Committee is expected to hold a public hearing on the bill later this month or early next month. If passed out of committee, the bill could then be sent to the full Assembly for action in mid-October.

To help ensure this legislation gets a hearing soon, please contact your state Representative and let him/her know how this legislation impacts older adults in your community. Encourage your board members, volunteers, program participants, and other community members to do the same and ask them to encourage their Assembly Representative to ask Rep. Moses, chair of the committee, to schedule a public hearing. This is especially important if your Representative is a member of the Health, Aging and Long-Term Care.

Anyone wishing to submit written or oral testimony on the bill when the hearing is scheduled is encouraged to contact me janet.zander@gwaar.org and I will keep them posted on the date and time of the hearing.

View the testimony previously submitted by GWAAR and the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) to the Senate Committee on Licensing, Constitution and Federalism:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2007878>

View the list of committee members:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007879>

Family Caregiver Support

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

Nice to Know

Reminder: Southeastern Wisconsin Caregiving Symposium

Monday, October 9 | 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

The Southeastern Wisconsin Caregiving Symposium will be held at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee in the Union Ballroom from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 9, 2023. The symposium seeks to bring together providers to build a collaborative understanding of available resources, identify resources, and connect organizations.

Event information and registration: <https://uwm.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1996>

Health Promotion

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

Need to Know

OAA Title IIID - Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Frequently Asked Questions

A reminder that there is a OAA Title IIID frequently asked questions document available on the GWAAR website under Technical Assistance | Health Promotion | Resources. There are several questions and answers related to contributions and cost-sharing. Here is an example of the types of questions you will find the answers to:

Question: Can we charge a fee to participants in a IIID eligible health promotion program? And is it allowable to offer IIID eligible programs at no charge?

Answer: If an Aging Unit is utilizing any IIID funding to support a program then each participant over the age of 60 must be provided an opportunity to contribute. A fee cannot be charged, nor can the program be offered at no-cost. The intent is that older adults feel a sense of dignity when they are provided an opportunity to support the service in some way, and for some services, their contributions can an impact on the aging unit's ability to sustain that level of programming.

Visit the site: <https://gwaar.org/health-promotion-for-professionals>

Download the FAQs: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007810>

Nice to Know

Promoting Falls Prevention Awareness Month with Falls Free Wisconsin!

The Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA), in partnership with the Falls Free Wisconsin Coalition, is proud to launch Falls Free® Wisconsin (FFWI) website! They would like to support you all in promoting this initiative in your community.

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To do this, they put together a promotion toolkit where you'll find:

- A social media plan with graphics and suggested messages
- Newsletter article templates
- Handouts for consumers
- Press release templates (coming soon!)
- Radio talking points
- Letter to the editor templates

We all know that falls prevention is a year-round endeavor, so use and customize these resources throughout the year to support falls prevention 24/7/365.

Additional resources:

Media Promotion Partner Toolkit - <https://fallsfreewi.org/for-professionals/promotional-resources/>

Visit Falls Free Wisconsin - <https://fallsfreewi.org/>

Questions? Contact Suzanne Morley, Falls Prevention Program Coordinator:
suzanne.morley@wihealthyaging.org



Nutrition

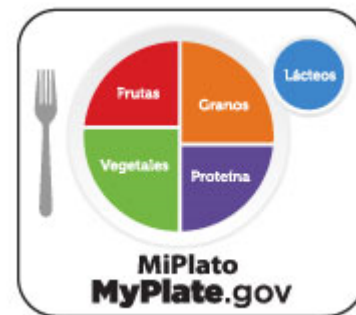
[Pam VanKampen](#), Older Americans Act Consultant - Nutrition Specialist/Senior Center Representative

Nice to Know

MyPlate.gov highlights MiPlato en español resources

September 15 marks the official start of National Hispanic Heritage Month! Now through October 15, MyPlate.gov will be celebrating this important cultural observance and highlighting MiPlato resources available in Spanish!

For consumers, the MiPlato en español webpage is a hub featuring a suite of MyPlate's top Spanish-language resources. Visit the site to take the MyPlate Quiz; download the MyPlate Plan, tip sheets and printable resources, graphics; and browse more than 1,000 recipes in MyPlate Kitchen, in Spanish!



For professionals, check out the MiPlato toolkit, developed through a collaboration of a group of MyPlate National Strategic Partners. Downloadable in Spanish and English, this multi-component toolkit includes sample and customizable meal plans, meal tips, recipes of some cultural favorites, and a guide for health professionals. The toolkit demonstrates how MyPlate can be the foundation for healthy, budget-conscious eating that reflects cultural foodways.

Visit MiPlato en español: <https://www.myplate.gov/resources/en-espanol>

View the MiPlato toolkit: <https://www.myplate.gov/partner-resources>