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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Nice to Know

Janet Zander named as member of Governor's Task Force on the Healthcare Workforce

Janet Zander, advocacy and public policy coordinator, Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources Inc. was named as one of the 25 task force members of Governor Evers Task Force on the Healthcare Workforce. Members of this task force will work to find long-term solutions to the state's generational healthcare workforce challenges.

According to a release from the Office of the Governor, "This task force will be charged with developing critical, innovative solutions for me to consider in preparing my next biennial budget to bolster and support our healthcare workforce and make sure this vital industry is prepared to meet the needs of Wisconsinites today and well into the future."



View the releases:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIGOV/bulletins/3878385>

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIGOV/bulletins/388c698>

Early bird registration now open for ADILN conference

Wisconsin Aging, Disability, and Independent Living Network conference

April 23–25, 2024

Join leaders from the Wisconsin Aging, Disability, and Independent Living Network April 23–25, 2024, in La Crosse, WI. This conference is focused on improving the lives of older people and adults with disabilities. Attendees will enjoy two full days of learning (half-day pre-conference intensive followed by a day and a half of workshops) along the beautiful Mississippi River. Attendees will also have numerous opportunities to learn, network, and collaborate with each other.

Early Bird: \$275 until February 23rd

Includes access to half-day pre-conference sessions.

Regular: \$300 beginning February 24th

Includes access to half-day pre-conference sessions

Register for the conference: <https://bit.ly/49fS3xz>

More information: <https://gwaar.org/adiln-2024>



Advocacy

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

Nice to Know

Disability Advocacy Day 2024

Wednesday, March 20, 9:30 a.m.

Please share! Registration is open for Disability Advocacy Day 2024! Join us in Madison on Wednesday, March 20 with advocates from around the state and meet with your elected officials. This is a great opportunity to share your story and educate your legislators on disability rights!

It's free to attend, but you must register by March 1! Register now online!

Registration: <https://bit.ly/3UAgjGR>

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

Emergency Respite Care Grant for Providers

Emergency Respite Care addresses the health and safety of the care recipient or the caregiver across the lifespan, placing either at risk or in danger.

The Emergency Respite Grant for Providers is available funding for established and existing respite care providers to increase emergency respite care. Direct emergency respite care must be provided within 180 days of the awarded grant.

Learn more: <https://respitecarewi.org/emergency-respite-grant-for-providers/>



Reminder: Survey opportunity for family caregivers

Caregiver Coordinators and other professionals within the Aging & Disability Community, the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) is looking for your HELP! Please share this survey opportunity with your family caregivers!

The Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) and Falls Free® Wisconsin are surveying family caregivers to learn more about their thoughts on falls risk and prevention. We would greatly appreciate your help in sharing our survey to your family caregivers!

Use the flyer and QR code with the sample language provided below when sharing:

-continued-

"Falls are the leading cause of injury and death of older adults in Wisconsin. Caregivers are in a unique position - you provide care for individuals that may be at risk of falling while you yourself may also be at risk. Prevention can make all the difference to help you and the person you care for stay safe and avoid injuries.

The Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) and Falls Free® Wisconsin are surveying family caregivers to learn more about your thoughts on falls risk and prevention. We would greatly appreciate your input! Please take 3-5 minutes to complete the survey below. Thank you for your time and consideration!"



SCAN ME

Survey link: <https://bit.ly/3SF5Vfp>

Did you know? Home safety assessments, minor home improvements/equipment and wellness classes are available to family caregivers through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services caregiver support and falls prevention programs!

For more information: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aging/caregiver.htm>

FALLS PREVENTION FOR CAREGIVERS

Why it Matters...

Caregivers may provide care for an older adult that has fallen or is at risk of falling and may be the first line of defense in prevention.

Caregivers can help their care recipient access healthcare providers, pharmacists, physical or occupational therapy, balance and strength exercise programs, and assist with home safety modifications.

Caregivers may also be at increased risk of falls themselves due to physical strain of caregiving responsibilities or having a fear of falling.



Falls prevention resources for caregivers coming soon!



FallsFreeWI.org
falls@wihealthyliving.org



Health Promotion

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

Need to Know

Reminder: Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar - ARPA D

Tuesday, February 20, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Don't miss the upcoming Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar! Need assistance learning about evidence-based health promotion programming to spend down your ARPA D funds and make your community a healthier place for older adults? We will have program administrators from several popular and easy to implement programs including: Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less, Bingocize, Stand Up, Mind Over Matter, Walk with Ease and StrongBodies. There will also be an opportunity to connect with other counties and see what evidence-based programming is working well in other counties. Register today!

Health Promotion Webinar registration:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tc-6qrT0sHtU9-MZpRWfLT8FGB03Nk8Y>

Nice to Know

AVID – Arts-based, Virtual, Intergenerational, and Dementia-friendly

AVID is a free, intergenerational, virtual opportunity that connects people across generations to share art, music, poetry, and stories.

How it works: Younger and older adults of different generations will be matched to video-chat weekly for one hour. These are social conversations around arts-based prompts that are provided by AVID. No artistic background is necessary to join.

Benefits of joining:

For older adults: Opportunities for creative self-expression and social engagement with younger adults while informally contributing to their education.

For students: Opportunities for creative self-expression and develop communication skills by connecting with older adults outside their usual circles of family and friends.

For questions or information on signing up, please contact: Krysta Peterson, at 440-340-8537 or ScrippsAVID@MiamiOH.edu

Learn more: <https://avid.scrippsoma.org/>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008041>



Reminder: OAA Title III-D Health Promotion Orientation Recording Available

In case you missed it, a recording of the January 16 OAA Title III-D Orientation is available for your viewing. During the orientation, you will learn the provisions and priorities of OAA Title III-D evidence-based health promotion programming. How to find eligible programming, allowable and unallowable expenses, reporting, partnerships and an introduction to some of the most popular programs will be discussed. Please reach out to Angie Sullivan, GWAAR OAA Consultant - Health Promotion if you have any questions angela.sullivan@gwaar.org.

View the Jan. 16 recording: <https://bit.ly/42wCvmX>

Reminder: The Health Literacy Collaborative Summit

April 8 and 9, 2024, Madison, WI

Wisconsin Health Literacy (WHL) is expanding its traditional Health Literacy Summit by partnering with eight other states to host the first Health Literacy Collaborative Summit. Summit learning objectives include; explaining how to use health literacy practices and principles in different contexts, identifying skills and strategies to use when working with different communities and/or to design relevant health programs or resources and how to help consumers find, understand, and use health information to manage their health.



Registration: <https://bit.ly/49oL4md>

More information: <https://www.healthliteracycollaborative.org/>

Reminder: 2024 Pisando Fuerte Facilitator Trainings

Pisando Fuerte, is the Spanish adaptation of the high-level evidence-based falls prevention program Stepping On. Registration is now open for two facilitator trainings in 2024!



Pisando Fuerte

Training 1: June 4-6, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. In-person at United Community Center, Milwaukee, WI.

Training 2: October 28, 29, November 4, & 5, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Virtual on Zoom.

Cost: \$525-\$950/trainee (Fee varies. Scholarships are available.)

Facilitators must:

- Be a healthcare professional or have other experience working with groups of older adults OR
- Be someone who works with Hispanic or Latino older adults AND
- **Be fluent in Spanish** AND
- Be employed by or volunteer for a registered program provider AND
- Hold at least one community workshop in every 12 months AND
- Identify an eligible co-facilitator at registration

Become a facilitator:

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

Complete the application: <https://wiha.wufoo.com/forms/s1tt8e4y0m1wnk7/>

For more information contact: falls@wihealthyaging.org

Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Transgender

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

Nice to Know

Reminder: SAGE State of LGBTQ+ Aging Survey

SAGE's Center of Excellence has partnered with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to conduct the "State of LGBTQ+ Aging Survey." The survey seeks to better understand the current experiences, needs, and resiliencies of older people in the U.S. who identify as LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, Two-Spirit, or related identities).

The survey is now open to LGBTQ+ adults 50 years old and older. It takes 30 to 45 minutes and can be conducted online or over the phone. **Survey link:** <https://bit.ly/3Smr6Bu>



Nutrition

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

Nice to Know

Senior Nutrition Program Awareness webinar registration and replays

If you missed the January Senior Nutrition Program Awareness webinar that was hosted by Administration for Community Learning (ACL) on January 24, you can listen to the recording of the webinar on the Celebration Website.



ACL Celebration Website: <https://acl.gov/snp/celebrate>

On March 20, the ACL is hosting a Webinar to Celebrate the Senior Nutrition Program. You can find the registration link and information on the Celebration website above, or **register here:** <https://bit.ly/3HX2bzJ>

You will also find several resources and materials to celebrate the month including resources regarding socialization. These resources provide the statistics discussed during the webinar. These are located on the Nutrition and Aging Resource Center website: <https://acl.gov/senior-nutrition>

The Benefits of Eating With Others — Graphic on the positive impact of congregate meals

https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/nutrition/BenefitsOfEatingTogether_IG-508.pdf

Meaningful Connection and Better Health Through Congregate Meals — How ACL's Senior Nutrition Program combats loneliness and social isolation

<https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/nutrition/MeaningfulConnectionCongregate.pdf>

We look forward to seeing your celebrations in March and throughout 2024. Don't forget to use #SeniorNutritionProgram in your social media posts, to join the national conversation.

Thank you for the work you do within the Senior Nutrition Program.

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

[Ingrid A. Kunderling](#), *Senior Medicare Patrol Program Director*

Nice to Know

Senior Medicare Patrol in the news again

The Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) was included in a recent television news story on WISN 12 in Milwaukee about urinary catheter kit scams. A link to the news story is included, along with a reminder about the importance of reviewing Medicare Summary Notices on a regular basis.

Read the story:

<https://www.smpwi.org/senior-medicare-patrol-in-the-newsagain/>

