

REQUIRED FOCUS AREAS FOR 2025-27 AGING PLANS

Wisconsin's County and Tribal Aging Plan instructions and template are being revised and will be sent to all Aging Units soon. This brief outline of the required focus areas for Aging Plan goals is intended to help shape your **community engagement** process. It is not a comprehensive guide to goal-writing. More information about these required focus areas, as well as resources to help with writing goals, developing work plans, and tracking progress will be presented at ACE meetings over the coming months.

In general, our statewide approach to the upcoming Aging Plan cycle emphasizes the needs expressed by older adults and their caregivers through local community engagement or public input activities. This approach also frames the upcoming three-year Plan period in the larger context of creating a long-term vision for the evolution of aging and disability programs and services. To that end, we encourage robust local conversation around how we want our systems to look in ten, twenty or thirty years. Also to that end, we encourage you to think of at least some of the projects in your plan as long-term projects, with annual milestones rather than project completion dates.

At least one goal is required to address an emerging need, a quality issue, or a gap in the services system in EACH of the following program areas:

- a) Title IIIB
 - b) Title IIIC
 - c) Title IIID
 - d) Title IIIE
1. At least one goal is required to address progress within one or more program area toward **person-centered services**, maximizing consumer control and choice. This may include efforts to expand choice and participant direction in specific Title III programs. One example might be a goal to introduce a choice-based restaurant model as part of the congregate meal program. The person-centered services goal can be a stand-alone goal or can be met in either the Title IIIB, Title IIIC, Title IIID or Title IIIE goals, above.
 2. At least one goal is required to **address a barrier to equity within one or more program area**. This may include efforts to expand the equity or inclusiveness of specific Title III programs and/or their capacity to serve particular marginalized community members. One example might be a goal to move closer to equitable distribution of aging services to reflect county race and ethnicity demographics. The equity goal can be a stand-alone goal or can be met in either the Title IIIB, Title IIIC, Title IIID or Title IIIE goals, above.
 3. At least one goal is required to increase local aging and disability network participants' knowledge and skills related to **advocacy**. This may include efforts to educate older adults about policy making or legislative processes, sometimes known as "Senior Statesman" training. The advocacy goal can be a stand-alone goal or can be met in either the Title IIIB, Title IIIC, Title IIID or Title IIIE goals, above.

Note that, to the greatest extent possible, **goals should address local needs** as defined by the community, by program participants, or by stakeholder groups such as local aging commissions, advisory councils or boards.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRAM ADVANCEMENT

In past plan cycles, formal goals have been required for the following topics. This time, you are asked to describe your approach to each and explain how you plan to improve or enhance this approach over the coming three-year plan cycle. Note that the intent is to continuously improve quality in each of these areas, so be sure to describe in clear and specific terms how you will accomplish this.

1. Explain your plan to enhance the amount and quality of ***community engagement/public input*** into aging plan and program development, in an ongoing effort to increase and improve interaction with community members about aging programs and services.
2. Explain your plans for enhancing **coordination of your Title III programming with Title VI programs** serving older adults in Tribal communities in your area.
3. Explain your plans for furthering **integration and collaboration between the Aging Unit and ADRC** serving your area.
4. Explain your approach to **emergency preparedness** and document the existence of an Emergency Preparedness Plan to ensure continuity of aging program operations and essential services in the event of crisis circumstances. The plan should include working with emergency management, and should also include references to lessons learned and partnerships formed in your response to the COVID 19 public health emergency.