



Volume 6, No. 15 April 9, 2024  
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## Join us for Aging Advocacy Day May 14!

[www.gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-day-2024](http://www.gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-day-2024) | #WIAgingAdvocacyDay #WIAAD24

### Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

#### Need to Know

##### Registration for May 8 ACE meeting open through April 12

Don't forget to register for the next GWAAR ACE meeting, which will be taking place in-person, on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024**, 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

<https://gwaar.wufoo.com/forms/z1lqevoh181j6l2/>

Holiday Inn Stevens Point Convention Center

1001 Amber Avenue | Stevens Point, WI 54482 | 715-344-0200

GWAAR has a small block of rooms available at the Holiday Inn. When calling to make a reservation, please reference the Group Block Code: GWA. Your group rate of \$110.00 will be available until 4/15/24. After this date, rates will go back to regular pricing. Once the block is filled, attendees will need to find their own room accommodations.

This ACE meeting will be focused on the development of the goals for the 2025-2027 Aging Plan. The Goal Development training will include a presentation on the revised goal tool and how to use it, example goals for each focus area and activities to help aging units in the development of their goals.

A more detailed agenda will be forthcoming as we get closer to the meeting date. We look forward to seeing you all!



#### Nice to Know

##### Ingrid Kundinger recognized for excellence in fraud prevention

Please join us in congratulating Ingrid Kundinger, recipient of the Fraud Prevention's Finest Award! This is a very prestigious award as only one person is awarded this recognition each month out of all of the Senior Medicare Patrol staff and programs in all 50 states plus 4 territories.

This award goes to a Senior Medicare Patrol staff person who consistently excels in the areas of casework, outreach, or partnership; models best practices; and encourages their SMP peers to improve upon their efforts in these areas.

We could not agree more that Ingrid is a great leader in our SMP program, and really strives to ensure that the program has a strong presence in the aging and disability networks, and collaborates with community partners. Congratulations, Ingrid!



### Employment opportunity: VSDP Care Consultant

The Veteran Self-Directed Program (VSDP) helps Veterans needing assistance choose their own caregivers, services, and supports to be able to safely and successfully remain living in their home. In conjunction with the Veteran and their family, the VSDP Care Consultant is responsible for assessing the Veteran's abilities and level of functioning, identifying areas of need and preferences for meeting those needs, developing a care plan to meet the needs; assisting the Veteran and family caregiver with setting up and purchasing goods and services within their individual budget allocation; and assisting the Veteran with monitoring service provision. This position requires a significant amount of travel within the North Chicago, Tomah, Madison, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis VAMC catchment areas. Ideal candidate will be located in Central part of the state (Steven's Point, Wausau, nearby areas) and/or Dane County area.

**Read the complete job description:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008093>

### The National Center to Reframe Aging presents Summit 2024: The Movement to Reframe Aging

Wednesday, April 10 | 8:00 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

This event is centered on the collective goal to revolutionize the way we communicate, think and act as we all share the universal experience of aging. Panel discussions will delve into the movement's implications across diverse sectors. Be a part of transformative conversations with thought leaders, national experts, federal representatives, and local, regional, and state-based leaders to learn more about the current movement to reframe aging, gain insight into what's next and exchange ideas for advancing an equitable and complete story about aging in America.



#### **More information and registration:**

<https://www.reframingaging.org/Events/Summit-2024-The-Movement-to-Reframe-Aging>

### Reminder: Older Americans Month (OAM) 2024 Materials Available

Every May, ACL leads the nation's observance of Older Americans Month (OAM). This year's theme is

**Powered by Connection**, which recognizes the profound impact that meaningful relationships and social connections have on our health and well-being. Join us in exploring the vital role that connectedness plays in supporting independence and aging in place.

Use these materials to celebrate OAM with your community. Don't forget to follow #OlderAmericansMonth for the latest from ACL and to see what others are planning!

**Visit the site to learn more and access materials:** <https://acl.gov/oam/2024/older-americans-month-2024>



## Advocacy

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

### **Nice to Know**

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#### **National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) – April 16**

National Healthcare Decisions Day is celebrated annually on April 16<sup>th</sup>, the day after the date traditionally known as Tax Day. The date was chosen based on this quote from Benjamin Franklin, “...in this world, nothing is certain except death and taxes.” So, by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year make sure your taxes are completed and on April 16<sup>th</sup> review your health care wishes.

NHDD is a way to encourage people to have conversations about their wishes for care through the end of life. This day, as well as events held throughout the year, are intended to empower people to complete advance directives by providing education on the importance of advance care planning and sharing the tools (forms, resources, guides, training) to help them express their wishes regarding healthcare.

Numerous events are held each year in the month of April, as well as throughout the year. Here are a few we are aware of:

- Brown County:  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008094>
- Fox Valley, Appleton:  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008095>  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008099>  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008100>
- Kenosha County:  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008096>
- LaCrosse:  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008097>
- Portage County:  
<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008098>

*Note: If you are holding an advance directives workshop or training in your area that isn't listed here, please send us your information.*

#### **For more information and access to advance directive forms:**

- Visit the Wisconsin Medical Society website at:  
<https://www.wismed.org/wismed/wismed/about-us/advance-care-planning.aspx>
- For answers to your questions or for assistance with forms, see this contact list on the Wisconsin Medical Society's website - [Advance Care Planning Wisconsin Contacts - April 2023.pdf - Google Drive](#) (includes Wis. healthcare facilities and community organizations such as ADRCs/aging units):  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hQRKHcXCEZQ21pdEYITo5ExaOuQbr6-L/view?pli=1>
- For additional information and resources, go to: <https://theconversationproject.org/>

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- Advance directive forms and guides can be found at:
  - [Advance Directives | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectives/index.htm)  
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectives/index.htm>
  - [Guardianship Support Center Resources \(gwaar.org\)](https://gwaar.org/guardianship-resources)  
<https://gwaar.org/guardianship-resources>
    - [Do-it-Yourself Consumer Packet: POA for Health Care](#)
    - [Power of Attorney for Health Care State Form](#)
    - [Power of Attorney for Health Care: An Overview](#)
    - [Requirements for a Valid Power of Attorney for Health Care](#)
    - [Responsibilities of a Health Care Agent Under a Wisconsin Power of Attorney for Health Care](#)
    - [Revoking a Power of Attorney for Health Care](#)
    - [Ten Reasons to Complete a Power of Attorney for Health Care](#)
  - [Advance Care Planning & Advance Directive \(wismed.org\)](https://www.wismed.org)
  - [Let'sTalk, Fox Valley Fox Valley Advance Care Planning Partnership \(fvacpp.org\)](https://www.fvacpp.org)

**Reminder: Aging Advocacy Day 2024 – Registration Now Open!**

Are you interested in speaking out on issues affecting older adults and family caregivers? **On May 14, 2024**, join members of the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN), aging network professionals, older adults, and family caregivers at an in-person Aging Advocacy Day (AAD) 2024 event in Madison to “tell your story” and help educate your state Senator and Assembly Representative and/or their staff about issues impacting Wisconsin’s aging population.



**Registration closes April 29, 2024**

Your voice matters!

**More information and registration:**

<https://gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-day-2024>.

**Pre-Advocacy Day Virtual Training**

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

**The virtual training is not required to attend Aging Advocacy Day, but is recommended.**

To help attendees prepare for legislative visits, the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network is hosting a virtual information session with a brief overview of this year’s issues and talking points. Those unable to attend Aging Advocacy Day in-person are also welcome to attend the virtual event and are encouraged to contact their state legislators independently or as part of a local, in-district meeting.

Additional information on in-district meetings will be posted online the week of April 22 at

<https://gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-day-2024>.

## Aging Plans

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[Nick Musson](#), Older Americans Act Consultant

### **Need to Know**

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#### **Reminder: 2025-2027 Aging Plan - Upcoming Trainings**

We are already three months into 2024 and everyone should be working on community engagement for their 2025-2027 Aging Plan. All the resources you need to develop your 2025-2027 aging plan are located on GWAAR's Aging Plan Technical Assistance webpage at: <https://gwaar.org/plansamendmentsassessments>

The webpage includes a timeline with key dates, a link to all the current aging plans, the 2022-2024 Aging Plan development series, planning resources, and 2025-2027 community engagement materials. Please reach out with any questions.

#### **Upcoming Trainings:**

##### **Focus Area Training (Virtual)**

*Thursday, April 18, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.*

The definition of focus areas for an Aging Plan involves identifying key areas where interventions, policies, and programs can make a significant difference in supporting aging individuals and their communities. These focus areas serve as guiding principles for developing strategies, allocating resources, and implementing initiatives aimed at improving the aging experience and ensuring that older adults can age with dignity, independence, and fulfillment. The training will introduce the 2025-2027 Aging Plan Focus Areas and what is to be expected for each.

##### **Goal Writing Training (In-person)**

*Wednesday, May 8, 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.*

Goals for an Aging Plan are typically defined through a collaborative process involving stakeholders such as government agencies, community organizations, healthcare providers, advocacy groups, older adults themselves, and their caregivers. At least one goal must be developed per focus area. The in-person training will introduce the goal development tool and an opportunity to begin developing your own goals with all the resources you need at your fingertips.

If you would like to be added to the 2025-2027 Aging Plan contact list, please contact Nick Musson at [nick.musson@gwaar.org](mailto:nick.musson@gwaar.org). The contact list is used for Aging Plan updates, trainings and presentations.

## Emergency Preparedness

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### **Nice to Know**

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#### **Webinar: Emergency Preparedness for Organizations Serving People with Disabilities and Older Adults**

*Thursday, April 18 | 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.*

ACL and the FEMA Office of Disability Integration and Coordination (ODIC) are partnering on a four-part webinar series to support people with disabilities and older adults – and the organizations that serve them – before, during and after disasters. Local aging and disability organizations are on the forefront of addressing issues and needs in their communities in partnership with emergency management, public health and other organizations. Federal partners are integrating efforts to better support state and local organizations as they build strong and resilient communities. This webinar series will focus on how this work is implemented at all levels of emergency management.

#### **More information and registration:**

[https://hhs.gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_P4ozIKVIQAOVTAoMNHzuHw#/registration](https://hhs.gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_P4ozIKVIQAOVTAoMNHzuHw#/registration)

## Nutrition

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

### **Nice to Know**

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#### **Reminder: The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Social Media Toolkit**

##### **2nd Quarter content now available**

This incredible resource from The Academy helps you plan nutrition and wellness days to highlight monthly on your menus, at your Senior Dining Sites, newsletter articles, social media posts. For example, April is National Stress Awareness Month.

There are talking points and social media posts ready for you to use. For example, April is Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) Month and National Stress Awareness Month.



**Visit the site:** <https://www.eatrightpro.org/about-us/for-media/social-media-toolkits>