



Volume 6, No. 19 May 7, 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

#### *Nice to Know*

#### **Reminder: Awareness materials available for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15**

We encourage agencies and consumers to join the elder abuse network in Wisconsin in recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) on June 15. Many of the county lead elder abuse agencies, providers, and others around the state will be holding events for WEAAD. If you would like to get involved too, the National Center for Elder Abuse (NCEA) offers materials on its website that can be downloaded and distributed including social media 'bits.'

Another resource for elder abuse awareness materials is the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). The CFPB is a government agency that provides information on educating consumers on how to avoid financial exploitation. They have materials that agencies may order for distribution. Many aging network providers have ordered the CFPB's materials including 'place mats' for dining sites as well as book marks for program participants.

#### **Visit the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) site for information:**

<https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/fraud/>

Please remind consumers you work with to sign up for Federal Trade Commission's National Do Not Call Registry. According to the FTC, Wisconsin is 5th in the nation of those registered (based on population):

<https://www.donotcall.gov/>

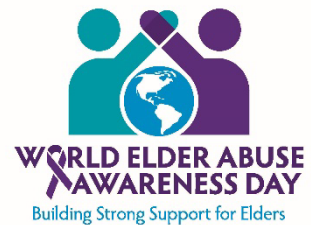
#### **View an overview of the Do Not Call registry:**

<https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/national-do-not-call-registry-faqs>

Cybercrime is increasingly being seen in financial exploitation cases and a good resource for learning about how cybercrime is affecting older adults and other consumers can be found here:

<https://fightcybercrime.org/blog/category/older-adults/>

If you are looking for other information on elder abuse please contact your local lead elder abuse agency or email Jayne Mullins directly at [Jayne.mullins@gwaar.org](mailto:Jayne.mullins@gwaar.org)



### **Upcoming GWAAR events:**

Wednesday, May 8 | ACE Meeting, Stevens Point

**View the agenda:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008157>

Tuesday, May 14 | Aging Advocacy Day, Madison

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

### **GWAAR employment opportunities**

Find a current listing of open positions and job descriptions at <https://gwaar.org/jobs>

#### **EBS Training Coordinator**

*Read the complete job description:* <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008003>

#### **VSDP Care Consultant**

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

#### **Bilingual Outreach & Education Coordinator**

*Read the complete job description:* <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008147>

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## **Advocacy**

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

### ***Nice to Know***

#### **Urge Your Representatives to Sign onto OAA Funding Letter**

Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) and Elise Stefanik (R-NY) are circulating a letter to their colleagues urging support for FY 2025 funding for Older Americans Act Title III programs, including Title III B Home and Community-Based Supportive Services, Title III C Nutrition Services, Title III D Evidence-Based Health Promotion and Disease Prevention programs, and the Title III E National Family Caregiver Support Program.

We need you to urge your Representatives to sign this letter to ensure that it receives the strong support needed to adequately fund these programs in FY 2025. Currently, there is no signature deadline, but we encourage you to act as soon as possible.

- You can call your U.S. Representative at his/her DC office (see Wisconsin Members of the 118th Congress for phone numbers) or you can reach the office through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121.
- Tell them about this Dear Colleague letter and offer to email them a link to the letter if they don't already have it.
- Let them know exactly why you want your Representative to sign the letter. Give local statistics that demonstrate the need for an increase in funding for these programs. You can also use USAging's appropriations campaign tool to craft your talking points. If asked for a staff contact, please tell them to reach out to Allie Pearce ([allie.pearce@mail.house.gov](mailto:allie.pearce@mail.house.gov)).

**Letter to colleagues:** <https://bit.ly/3Wuk29G>

**Members of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697>

**USAging's appropriations campaign tool:** <https://www.usaging.org/content.asp?admin=Y&contentid=1620>

## Urge U.S. Senators Baldwin and Johnson to Sign onto Medicare SHIP Funding Letter (May 8 deadline)

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) is circulating a letter to his colleagues urging support for FY 2025 funding for the Medicare State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) at no less than \$80 million.

Please urge your Senators to sign this letter as your action will help build the strong support needed to ensure Medicare SHIP is adequately funded. **The current deadline for signatures on this letter is May 8.** We encourage you to take action as soon as possible.

- Call Senator Tammy Baldwin and Senator Ron Johnson at their DC office. See Wisconsin Members of the 118th Congress for phone numbers or you can reach the offices through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121.
- Tell them about the Dear Colleague letter and offer to email them a link to the letter if they don't already have it.
- Let them know exactly why you want your Senator to sign on to the letter. Make sure they understand Medicare SHIPs provide local, in-depth, and objective insurance counseling and assistance to Medicare-eligible individuals, their families and caregivers. If asked for a staff contact, please tell them to reach out to Sebastian Cardona-Negron ([Sebastian.Cardona-Negron@murphy.senate.gov](mailto:Sebastian.Cardona-Negron@murphy.senate.gov)).

**Letter to colleagues:** <https://www.usaging.org/Files/FY25%20Medicare%20SHIP%20Approps.pdf>

**Members of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697>

## Family Caregiver Support

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*Bryn Ceman, Older Americans Act Consultant - Family Caregiver Support Specialist*

### **Nice to Know**

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#### **Reminder: 2024 WI Respite Summit – June 12**

*Wednesday, June 12 | 8:15 a.m.*

Join us at the 2024 WI Respite Summit at the Florian Gardens in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. There is no fee to attend the Summit.

Registration and breakfast will begin at 8:15 a.m., and our welcome commencement is set to start at 9:00 am. The Summit will wrap up at 3:00 p.m., leaving us six hours with community partners, family caregivers, care recipients, and professionals from around the state to network and increase awareness of respite care and develop a renewed and continuing commitment to services for Wisconsin families.

**View the Summit agenda:** <https://bit.ly/4blrQ1T>

**Registration:** <https://rcaw.gnosishosting.net/Events/Calendar?fordate=2024-06-12>



## Professional Training Opportunity – A State of the State of Dementia in Wisconsin

Wednesday, June 5 | 9:00 a.m.

A State of the State of Dementia in Wisconsin, A Conference for Professional Caregivers is being offered by the ADRCs of Rock, Jefferson, & Walworth Counties. The training will be offered at the University of Whitewater Campus.

Registration is \$25 and due on 5/28/24. 4 CEUs are available. To register contact Karen Tennyson at [karen.tennyson@co.rock.wi.us](mailto:karen.tennyson@co.rock.wi.us) or 608-741-3615.

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008159>

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers of Rock, Jefferson & Walworth Counties Present

State of the State of Dementia in Wisconsin  
A Conference for Professional Caregivers

Wednesday June 5th  
9am-3:30pm  
University of Whitewater Campus area

Register! Return completed registration & check to:  
Seniors in the Park  
PO Box 478,  
Whitewater, WI 53190

Registration due 5/28/24  
\$25 registration fee includes full conference day, lunch & CEUs

4 CEUs available via UWV sponsorship

**SPEAKERS**  
Carrie Moise, Director, SADR & Ryan Darr, Research Analyst, Department of Health Services (Overview: 2005-2025 State Dementia Plan)  
Laurie Kohler, APR Program & Policy Specialist at Dept of Health Services (Adult Protective Services, Dementia & Crisis)  
Janae Darr, LCSW, Social Worker, Stoughton Hospital, Geriatric Psychiatry (Statistics on mental, psychiatric, and d...)  
Bonnie Nalrinson, MS, Research Program Coordinator, Dementia Care & Caregiver Hospital (Caregiver Concerns and Community Education)  
Family Caregiver and People Living with a Diagnosis Discussion Panel

University of Wisconsin Whitewater

## Health Promotion

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

### Nice to Know

#### Take the Surgeon General's 5-for-5 Connection Challenge

The U.S. Surgeon General is challenging YOU to take the "5-for-5 Connection Challenge" as a way to build and strengthen your own relationships and inspire others to incorporate connection in their daily lives!

#### 5 Actions for 5 Days

**Step 1:** Commit to connect - Pick 5 actions and 5 days in a row to connect with people in your life.

**Step 2:** Connect each day for 5 days - Each day, take one simple action of your choice to express gratitude, offer support, or ask for help.

**Step 3:** Inspire More Connection - Reflect and share.

The Surgeon General's 5-for-5 Connection Challenge builds on the Surgeon General's Advisory on Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation. Learn more about the challenge and other important resources and tools to combat social isolation and loneliness in your community.

Learn more: <https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/connection/challenge/index.html>



## Medicare Outreach and Assistance

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[Alyssa Kulpa](#), Medicare Outreach Coordinator

### **Nice to Know**

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#### **Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Outreach Idea**

Every month, the GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator, Alyssa Kulpa, shares a MIPPA outreach idea.

May's Idea of the Month is "Strengthening Community Bonds: Outreach at Summer Events." Idea of Month resources are an ideal model for your organization to use to meet your outreach goals, educate Medicare beneficiaries, and encourage participants to become advocates for their own health care.

**Download the May Idea of the Month:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008150>

**View past ideas:** <https://gwaar.org/idea-of-the-month>

#### **Continuing Education Hours (CEH) Opportunity for SHIP counselors and supervisors**

*Wednesday, June 26 | 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

There will be an optional SHIP training coming up on 6/26/24 "Utilizing Medicare Minutes to Educate, Engage, and Empower" presented by Alyssa Kulpa, GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator.

Intended audience: SHIP counselors and supervisors looking to enhance their utilization of Medicare Minutes provided by the SHIP TA Center.

Objectives:

- Learn about the SHIP TA Center and Medicare Minutes.
- Explore strategies for integrating Medicare Minutes into consistent Medicare outreach efforts.
- Understand how Medicare Minutes can be used to educate, engage, and empower SHIP counselors, Medicare beneficiaries, and other professionals within your community.

DHS has partnered with the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to issue Continuing Education Hours/Units (CEH/CEU) to SHIP training participants. You must attend LIVE trainings to be eligible for CEHs/CEUs. Your attendance is verified using Zoom attendance reports and completion of the survey after the live event.

For questions regarding the training, email Alyssa Kulpa, GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator, at [alyssa.kulpa@gwaar.org](mailto:alyssa.kulpa@gwaar.org).

For questions regarding the Continuing Education Hours (CEH) Opportunity, email Pam Watson, MIPPA Grant Coordinator, at [pamela.watson@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:pamela.watson@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

**Outlook event:** <https://zoom.us/meeting/tZMucO-gpz8qEtHrQVkkinnjBCips5PDFBPK/ics>

**Zoom link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87376894085?pwd=JKHq9WNxkiqlq6BahqMNqSbvIVfUMm.1>

## Nutrition

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

### **Nice to Know**

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#### **Four-Course Series on the Intersection of Food Justice and Disability Justice**

**Hosted by Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)**

*Tuesday, May 14 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.*

Kelly's Kitchen is excited to partner with the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) to provide a four-course series on the intersection of food justice and disability justice. Thanks to funding from the Ford Foundation, they are able to pursue multiple projects that focus on food justice and ensuring that people who have limited access to healthy fruits and vegetables get those resources. Oftentimes, populations who need support, resources, and access to food security resources the most are the ones who already face inequities and barriers.

#### **Food Justice 101 Registration:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcuigqj4jGNauOq8rrKCGUaWfgoHxFL4R#/registration>

#### **New Home-Delivered Meals (HDM) Assessor Peer Sharing Call!**

*Tuesday, June 18 | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.*

We are excited to announce a new opportunity for HDM Assessors to connect with their peers. As well as a venue for sharing training and resources related to the HDM Assessment process. Our first call will be on June 18 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. If you have agenda items, please send them to Pam VanKampen,

[pam.vankampen@gwaar.org](mailto:pam.vankampen@gwaar.org)

**Join the call at:** <https://bit.ly/3y7hCnj>

*Meeting ID: 272 845 447 268*

*Passcode: gRWWGr*

*Dial-in by phone: +1 608-338-1382,87755183# United States, Madison*