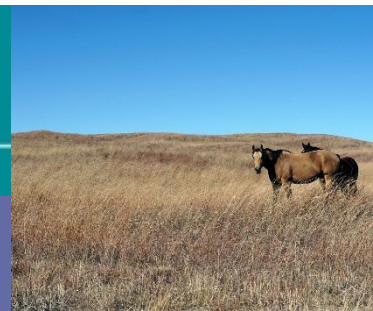




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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

New GWAAR Partners Resource site now available

We are excited to announce the arrival of the GWAAR Partners Resource-External site, a newly developed GWAAR SharePoint site for use by GWAAR Aging Units and others. This site was designed to provide our partners with a secure and convenient location to access the information you need to support your clients and staff.

Here you will find upcoming GWAAR News and Events, informational and training documents and recordings, and other important resources.

Partner Users must register to access this site:

<https://gwaar.org/registration-for-the-gwaar-partner-resource-external-site>

You should receive access information within 3-5 business days.

All information has been copied over from the document library that was temporarily being used to house GWAAR information, such as the claim form and other training and webinar materials. This site will be deactivated as of Thursday 7/18.

If you need access to ACE Meetings, Fiscal, Data Management or Nutrition information from the temporary document library, you can use the links below for the next two days (end of day on 7/18).

ACE Meetings - EXT

<https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/gwaaraging/EjLCi5TYg5IAvbctSj860M8B9ni3DGOD-AjwCOAsUUTeNQ?e=NILWO1>

Data Management (SAMS) - EXT

<https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/gwaaraging/EqLnqB3wZ3lKsVpmRvK8ZmwBzHXynbGyx8V4xDtZcJayWQ?e=mgNjYF>

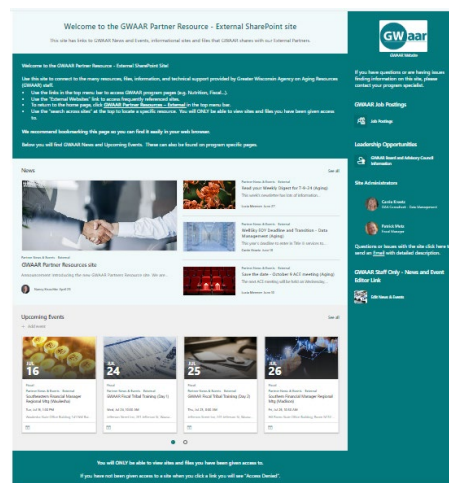
Fiscal - EXT

https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/gwaaraging/EvPRIAMJYHtGm3wvJVtuczgBzi66amozN7RAB_5QBODHKw?e=kYd1FW

Nutrition - EXT

https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/gwaaraging/El9nJwxJJZVBjZm2V7FQANABMn_ZSOMcV_Mee2J6ZlbQQ?e=tll3WF

If you have any issues or questions related to the new site, please email Carrie Kroetz:
carrie.kroetz@gwaar.org



Nice to Know

National recognition for Elder Abuse Hotline at USAgging conference

Please join us in congratulating Joanna Reinstein, pictured here with GWAAR Executive Director John Schnabl, at the USAgging national conference last week. Joanna was recognized for her work with the Wisconsin Elder Abuse Hotline in conjunction with the Wisconsin Department of Justice and is one of the recipients of a 2024 USAgging Aging Achievement Award. Congratulations!

Read the DOJ press release: <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/news-releases/wisconsin-elder-abuse-hotline-receives-prestigious-aging-achievement-award-usaging>



Reminder: Accepting Applications: GWAAR Board of Directors

If you'd like to play a role in shaping the direction of programs and services for older people in the state, we invite you to volunteer for our Board of Directors. Our mission is to provide aging offices with training, technical assistance, and support to improve the well-being of older people in Wisconsin. For questions about volunteering on the Board of Directors, please contact John Schnabl at john.schnabl@gwaar.org.

View the application: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005629>

Reminder: Employment Opportunities with GWAAR

GWAAR currently has a few employment opportunities available. If you're passionate about delivering innovative support to lead aging agencies as we work together to promote, protect, and enhance the well-being of older people in Wisconsin, join us! Open positions can be found at: <https://gwaar.org/jobs>

Current opportunities include:

Public Interest Elder Law Attorney: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008225>

VSDP Care Consultant: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008217>

Advocacy

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

Need to Know

House Committee Passes FY25 Funding Bill with Cuts to OAA

Last week, the full House Appropriations Committee passed the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education (Labor-HHS-Education) appropriations bill. The Labor-HHS-Education bill includes an outline of FY 2025 funding levels for the Older Americans Act (OAA) and other aging service programs. The full House is expected to take up the bill in August.

Funding levels in the bill for the OAA Nutrition programs are far less than what is needed to meet the needs of local programs and older adults who rely on these critical services. The bill reflects a cut of \$16.3 million over FY 2024 funding levels. Additionally, the bill ends funding for the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) program and Adult Protective Services (APS).

Though it is unlikely this appropriations bill will be the final bill enacted into law, it does raise serious concerns about the future funding levels for these programs. Our advocacy efforts must continue, as we

-continued-

work to help legislators understand just how harmful funding cuts will be to local programs in their districts and to the many older adults in need of services.

To address the growing older adult population and existing waiting lists, Meals on Wheels America is advocating for \$1.842 billion for the OAA Nutrition Program in FY 2025. Every August, members of Congress take a summer recess and are back in their home states and district for the month. August is a great time for you to reach out to your federal legislators and invite them to ride along on a home-delivered meal route, visit a congregate dining site, our help to prepare or serve a meal at the dining site. Please consider extending an invitation to your Congressional Representative or Wisconsin's U.S. Senators soon (see [Wisconsin Members of the 118th Congress](#) for contact information). Please feel free to contact Janet Zander, Advocacy & Public Policy Coordinator – janet.zander@gwaar.org for assistance drafting an invitation or for tips on planning a successful site visit.

[Wisconsin Members of the 118th Congress:](https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697) <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697>

Program	FY24	FY25 Biden	FY25 House
Older Americans Act Programs			ACL cut 49.9 million
Title III-B Home and Community-Based Services	\$410 million	\$410 million	\$415 million
Title III-C Nutrition Total	\$1.058 billion	\$1.149 billion	\$1.042 billion
III-C-1 Congregate Meals	\$565 million	\$621.7 million	\$543 million
III-C-2 Home-Delivered Meals	\$381 million	\$447.7 million	\$366 million
III-C Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)	\$112 million	\$80 million	\$132 million
Title III-D Preventive Health	\$26.3 million	\$26.3 million	\$26.3 million
Title III-E Family Caregiver Support Program	\$207 million	\$205 million	\$210 million
Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP/CSEOA-DOL)	\$405 million	\$405 million	\$0
Title VI Native Americans Nutrition/Supportive Services	\$38.2 million	\$38.2 million	\$42.2 million
Title VI Native Americans Caregiver Program	\$12 million	\$12 million	\$16 million
Title VII Long-Term Care Ombudsman	\$21.8 million	\$22 million	\$21.8 million
Title VII Elder Rights Support Activities Total	\$33.9 million	\$34 million	\$33.9 million
Elder Justice-State APS Grants/APS Funding	\$15 million	\$30 million	

Excerpted from the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)

Nice to Know

Reminder: Lunch & Learn: Voting in Residential Settings - Making a plan to vote and knowing your rights

Tuesday, July 23 | 12:00 – 12:45 p.m.


Learn about voting rights for people living in residential settings like a nursing home, adult family home, or community based residential facility (CBRF).

Plan to attend if you are a voter in a residential setting, staff from residential facilities, or anyone interested in this topic. Join Janet Zander, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator at the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, and the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition to learn about your voting rights for people living in a residential setting.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/VotinginResidentialSettings>

View the flyer:

<https://disabilityvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/DVC-July-2024-Lunch-and-Learn-Flyer-acc.pdf>



Stay tuned for future webinars!

Sign Language Interpreters will be available.

Visit us at DisabilityVote.org or email us at info@DisabilityVote.org

Need help with voting?
Contact the Disability Rights WI Voter Hotline at 844-DIS VOTE/844-347-6893

REGISTER TODAY!
VOTERS LIVING IN RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS – MAKING A PLAN TO VOTE AND KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS



Learn about voting rights for people living in residential settings like a nursing home, adult family home, or community based residential facility (CBRF).

Plan to attend if you are a voter in a residential setting, staff from residential facilities, or anyone interested in this topic.

Join Janet Zander, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator at the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, and the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition to learn about your voting rights for people living in a residential setting.

July 23, 2024 * 12:00 – 12:45 pm via Zoom

Register at <https://bit.ly/VotinginResidentialSettings> or scan the QR code.

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

Reminder: Family Caregiver priorities and survey opportunity

Nearly every person served by the Aging, Disability, and Independent Living (ADIL) Network has one or more family members or friends who provide them with care or some form of help. We at the [Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance \(WFACSA\)](#) are working to identify which priorities in the [2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers](#) most strongly align with our state's needs. Sharing what your agencies and organizations currently do and would like to see us focus on in the future, will be key to strengthening caregiver supports across our state.



Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance (WFACSA): <https://wisconsincaregiver.org/alliance>

2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers: <https://acl.gov/CaregiverStrategy>

For this reason, we request your input through this [professional survey](#) to learn about the needs of family caregivers. Your expertise is vital to understanding needs across our network and state. We have also generated a [family caregiver-specific survey](#) which has been shared on our Wisconsin Family Caregiver Support FB page and by other members of the Alliance. We ask that you share this link with family caregivers that you work with as well.

Professional Survey Link: <https://bit.ly/3zapxRp>

Family Caregiver-Specific Survey Link: <https://bit.ly/3xqPITp>

NEW! Printable family caregiver-specific survey link and instructions: <https://bit.ly/3W5WB5T>

What we learn from these surveys will be helpful for our state and shared with the national [RAISE Caregiver Advisory Council and ACL](#) to design improvements in caregiver supports across federal programs.

RAISE Caregiver Advisory Council and ACL:

<https://acl.gov/programs/support-caregivers/raise-family-caregiving-advisory-council>

Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your professional expertise with us and for helping to gather family-caregiver feedback. Nearly everyone has been, will be, or will need a caregiver at some point in their lives. Together we can make sure those caregivers are supported when the time comes.

Nice to Know

Reminder: Grant opportunity for counties!

The Department of Health Services (DHS) is pleased to announce this grant opportunity to Wisconsin counties interested in developing a dementia crisis stabilization unit (DCSU). This competitive grant opportunity is intended to provide counties with the opportunity to develop a DCSU that will provide crisis assessment, stabilization, and necessary treatment for individuals for whom the crisis is judged to be significantly related to the person's cognitive issues (suspected or diagnosed dementia) and whose needs cannot be appropriately met with other resources in the region. The goal of a DCSU is to stabilize a dementia-related crisis and return the person to their previous residence or a least restrictive setting within 28 days or less. The grant application is due 5:00 p.m. (central time) on July 29, 2024.



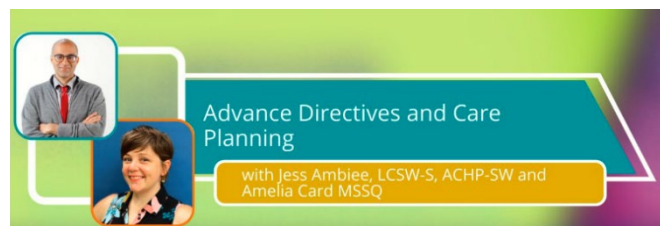
Additional details and forms: <https://publicnotices.wisconsin.gov/NoticeView.asp?Inid=1538876>

Reminder: Advance Directives and Care Planning webinar by WellMed

Some Aging Plans have established an Advance Directives goal for their 2025-2027 Plan. This might be a great webinar for both staff and caregivers.

“When Decisions Are Left Undecided”: Advance care planning, also known as end-of-life and healthcare planning, empowers people to make decisions about the care they want to receive when they can no longer speak for themselves. Adults of any age can begin advance care planning although most people do so in later stages of life.

More details and registration: <https://www.wellmedcharitablefoundation.org/caregiver-support-caregiver-teleconnection-events/advanced-directives-and-care-planning/>



Guardian Support Center

[Polly Shoemaker](#), WI Guardianship Support Center Attorney

Nice to Know

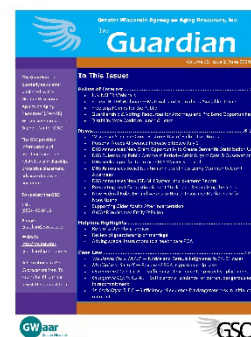
Read “The Guardian” for in-depth news and updates

The June issue of the Guardianship Support Center newsletter “The Guardian” is now available on the GWAAR website.

You'll find news, resources and helpful information on issues related to adult guardianship, protective placement, advance directives, and more.

Read this issue: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008257>

Visit the Guardian Support Center page: <https://gwaar.org/guardianship-resources>



Medicare Outreach and Assistance

[Alyssa Kulpa](#), Medicare Outreach Coordinator

Nice to Know

Reminder: Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Outreach Idea

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

July's Idea of the Month is “NEW! Medicare Mingle: A Casual Meetup for Wisconsin SHIP Counselors.” 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 July Idea of the Month: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008252>

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

Reminder: Continuing Education Hours (CEH) Opportunity for SHIP counselors and supervisors

Wednesday, August 7 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

There will be an optional SHIP training coming up on 8/7/24 “Growing Partnerships: Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)” presented by Ingrid Kundinger, Senior Medicare Patrol Program Director, and Alyssa Kulpa, GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator.

-continued-

Intended audience: SHIP counselors and supervisors seeking to enhance their understanding of the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program and its potential for partnership in Medicare outreach efforts.

Objectives:

- Gain insight into the Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program.
- Explore the expanded SMP Volunteer team and their role in advancing mission delivery.
- Learn when to refer to and partner with SMP for successful Medicare outreach in Wisconsin.

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.

Outlook event: <https://zoom.us/meeting/tZ0kf-iurDgtHNJM2MSqLnmBPLi9Pq58xsf/ics>

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89981623766?pwd=6rymD9KtE8kGAA0Y3unw4gUPHAJ6bn.1>

For questions regarding the training, email Alyssa Kulpa, GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator, at 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.

Nutrition

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

Need to Know

Reminder: Meal Prioritization/Wait List Procedure (Right Meal for You)

This is a reminder that as of 7-1-24, if you are going to adopt Meal Prioritization and/or if you have a Waitlist or need to start one, the Nutrition programs in the GWAAR Service area are required to use the tool and process created by GWAAR in collaboration with your peers on various workgroups. If you are going to adopt and implement this process locally, please notify your GWAAR Nutrition Team Representative by completing this Waitlist/Meal Prioritization Notification Form: <https://bit.ly/3VQBqn1>

We have three Training Modules posted. You can access the training modules, required score form, editable templates, and supporting documents on the GWAAR Nutrition External SharePoint in the *Meal Prioritization* Folder.

GWAAR Nutrition External SharePoint: <https://gwaar.org/nutrition-external-sharepoint-site>

Training Modules:

Module 1- How to Use the Meal Prioritization (Right Meal for You) tool. (45 minutes). This is intended for you as directors as well as your staff who will be completing the form and process. Written instructions are also provided.

Module 2- Review of Technical Assistance Guide, Forms, and Supporting Documents. (30 minutes). For Directors. Please note that several templates can be customized for you to use locally.

Module 3- Overview and Why. (15 minutes). Intended for your board, advisory council, staff, etc. Anyone who wants a high-level understanding of the process.

-continued-

Meal Prioritization Tool/Right Meal for You training July 18, 2-3 p.m.

Thursday, July 18 | 2-3 p.m.

We will have a call for anyone using or interested in learning more about the process.

This will be the first call for programs using the new process. We will then have office hours once a month and quarterly calls (Date Saver will be shared on the call). We will use the same meeting log-in information for each meeting but, the dates and times will be updated and a reminder will be sent before the calls.

If you have any questions, please contact your regional GWAAR Nutrition Team Representative, they will be happy to assist you.

Teams link: <https://bit.ly/3XLcjEU> Meeting ID: 290 848 179 447 | Passcode: A4aREM

Dial in by phone +1 608-338-1382 | Phone conference ID: 451 418 114#

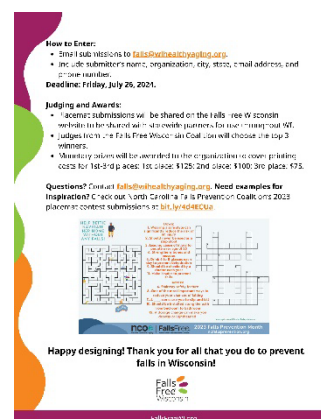
Nice to Know

Falls Prevention Awareness Month Placemat Contest!

The Falls Free Wisconsin Coalition is holding a contest for Falls Prevention Awareness Month (FPAM)! The goal of the contest is to create a placemat with falls prevention education for older adults for partners throughout the state to distribute during Falls Prevention Awareness Month this September. See attached for submission requirements (deadline July 26th), example placemats, and additional information!

Visit the site: <https://fallsfreewi.org/placemat-contest/>

Link to view full flyer: <https://bit.ly/3xllwcm>



Tribal Technical Center

[Kassy Heard](#), TTAC Program Director

Nice to Know

Reminder: Tribal Cook's Training

Wednesday, July 31 | 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Menominee Food Distribution, Keshena, WI

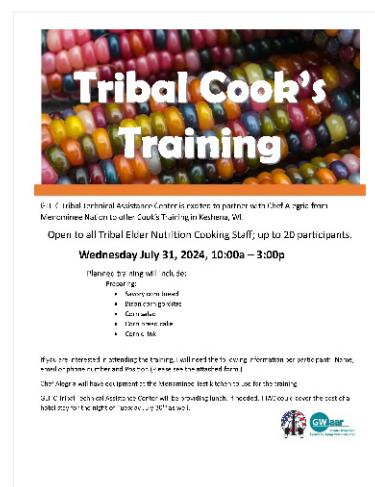
GLITC Tribal Technical Assistance Center is excited to partner with Chef Alegria from Menominee Nation to offer Cook's Training in Keshena, WI. Open to all Tribal Elder Nutrition Cooking Staff; up to 20 participants.

Planned training will include:

Preparing:

- Savory corn bread
- Bison corn gorditas
- Corn salad
- Corn bread cake
- Corn drink

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008247>



Reminder: Tribal Fiscal Training

Wednesday, July 24 | 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Thursday, July 25 | 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Jefferson Street Inn, Wausau, WI

Topics covered:

- Required Services Under Title III
- Title III Budget & Claim Deadlines/ Timelines
- Meal Cost Tool
- One-on-One with GWAAR Fiscal Staff

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008248>

