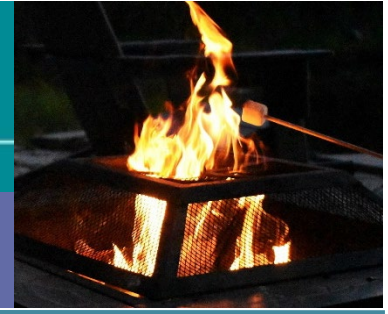




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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

Reminder: New GWAAR Partners Resource site now available

Don't forget to register and check out the new GWAAR Partners Resource-External site, for GWAAR Aging Units and others. This site provides a secure and convenient location for our partners to access the information you need, including 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 can also find the registration link and information on our website:

<https://gwaar.org/gpr-ext>

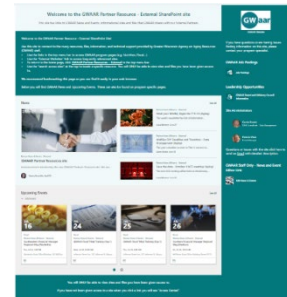
Once your access has been granted you will receive an email of notification and login security instructions.

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.

Please note: Updated claim forms are available on both the new and old SharePoint sites.

Your claim forms and budgets can be located on the new GWAAR Partners Resource site. If you do not have access yet, you can still access the forms in the documents library. Access to this library has been extended until access has been enabled for recent registrants.

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



Nice to Know

Reminder: Dane County Department of Human Services Domestic Violence in Later Life Conference

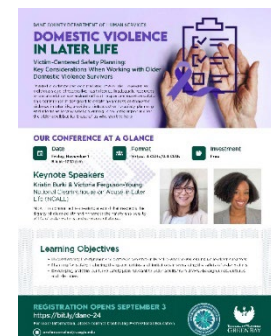
Friday, November 1 | 8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

This event will be offered virtually and online registration opens September 3, 2024.

Save the date! Dane County Department of Human Services is pleased to announce its annual Domestic Violence in Later Life Conference being held Friday, November 1, 2024. This very popular yearly event is being offered virtually and will start at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 12:15 p.m. Certain licensed professionals who attend will have the opportunity to earn 4 CEHs/0.4 CEUs.

Registration opens September 3, 2024. See the flyer for details. Due to the state funding being made available for this conference there is no cost to attend.

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008289>



VSDP Care Consultant Employment Opportunity

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 Southern/Southeastern part of the state (Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson, Green, Rock, Walworth) and/or Dane County area.

Read the full job description: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008300>

Reminder: Accepting Applications for 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.

To apply, please fill out our [online application](#) and submit to john.schnabl@gwaar.org.

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

If you have any questions about volunteering on the Board of Directors, please contact John Schnabl at john.schnabl@gwaar.org.

Reminder: Accepting Applications for GWAAR Advisory Council

The Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR), is looking for thoughtful, civic-minded, energetic individuals to fill vacancies on its Advisory Council.

Advisory Council Members are involved in a variety of activities that support aging programs including promotion of quality improvement of aging services and individual and organizational advocacy. Advisory Council Members are expected to maintain community relationships to promote agency visibility and help achieve agency goals.

If you are looking for a challenging volunteer opportunity where your skills can make a difference in program planning, development, and implementation – please see the following and apply.

View the application: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005628>

If you have any questions about volunteering on the Advisory Council, please contact Nick Musson at nick.musson@gwaar.org.

Abuse in Later Life Grant

Nice to Know

Reminder: Direct Services Elder Abuse Training-October 9 (No Cost)

Wednesday, October 9 | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Walworth County Health & Human Services Building; 1910 County Road NN, Elkhorn

The purpose of this training is to enhance older victims' safety and quality of life by strengthening collaboration among direct service providers.

Topics include:

- Types of Abuse in Later Life
- Understanding types of abuse in later life and abuser tactics
- Collaborating to create a victim-centered response
- Planning for victim safety
- Existing services for older victims

Who should attend?

The training is open to state-based organizations and agencies that work with adult protective services, victim services, system-based advocates, and aging network professionals.

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008283>

Registration:

<https://wisdoj.eventsair.com/direct-services-elder-abuse-training---walworth-county/oct9/Site/Register>



Date/Time:
October 9, 2024 (8:00am - 4:30pm)
Location:
Walworth County Health & Human Services Building
1910 County Road NN, Elkhorn
Register here:
<https://wisdoj.eventsair.com/direct-services-elder-abuse-training---walworth-county/oct9>

About:
The purpose of this training is to enhance older victims' safety and quality of life by strengthening collaboration among direct service providers.

Topics Include:

- Types of Abuse in Later Life
- Understanding types of abuse in later life and abuser tactics
- Collaborating to create a victim-centered response
- Planning for victim safety
- Existing services for older victims



Any questions on this training, please contact Domen Goetsch 608-219-5013 or by email at Domen.Goetsch@gwaar.org

Advocacy

Janet Zander, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator

Need to Know

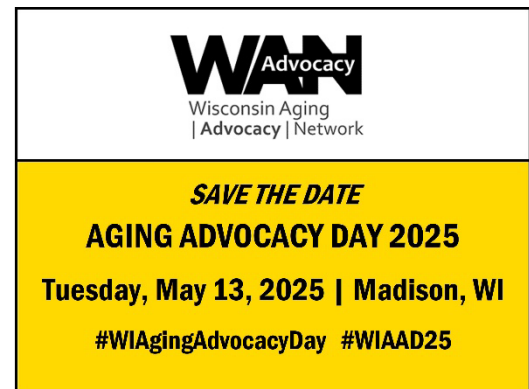
Save the Date! Aging Advocacy Day 2025 – Tuesday, May 13

The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) will hold our 9th Annual Aging Advocacy Day (AAD) 2025 event in Madison on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Citizens from around the state will gather in Madison on Tuesday, May 13 for training, to meet with other constituents from their Senate and Assembly district, and for office visits with their legislators/legislative staff. Following the training, attendees will join others from their state Senate and Assembly district to provide information and share personal stories with legislators and/or their staff to help them understand how specific policy issues and proposals impact individuals, families, and older constituents.

Updates available at <https://gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-day-2025>

Event sponsorship opportunities: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008298>



WAAN
Wisconsin Aging
| Advocacy | Network

SAVE THE DATE
AGING ADVOCACY DAY 2025
Tuesday, May 13, 2025 | Madison, WI
#WIAgingAdvocacyDay #WIAAD25

Nice to Know

Engage Your Representatives to Push OAA Reauthorization Forward!

Last month, the Senate HELP Committee passed the OAA Reauthorization Act of 2024. Our national association of area agencies on aging (USAgings) endorsed the bill as it fully or partially incorporates many of their priorities.

(S.4776 - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/4776>)

A few members of the House have started work on the OAA reauthorization process; however, there is still much work to be done to move this process forward. Our attention must now be focused on the House and their OAA reauthorization process. Members of Congress are at home for August recess, offering the perfect time to reach out to House members.

Action Needed: Please contact your U.S. Representative this week to ensure they understand the importance of OAA reauthorization for the older adults and caregivers you serve! For resources to assist with this effort, see USAgings' **Recommendations for the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, January 2024 - OAA Reauthorization - Recommendations** (using.org) [OAA Reauthorization - Recommendations \(using.org\)](#) and the USAgings Endorsement Letter for Senate OAA Reauthorization Bill, July 2024 - USAgings OAA Reauthorization Bill Endorsement Letter_S4776.pdf.

USAgings OAA Reauthorization – Recommendations: <https://bit.ly/3T5sidK>

USAgings OAA Reauthorization Bill Endorsement Letter S4776: <https://bit.ly/4dCWUf7>

To find out who your U.S. Representative is, go to Find Your Representative at <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative> and enter your ZIP code.

Reminder: Task Force on the Healthcare Workforce Releases Full Report

On Aug. 19, 2025, the Governor's Task Force on the Healthcare Workforce released its final report and advisory action plan. The advisory action plan outlines solutions to address the state's longstanding healthcare workforce shortages. The taskforce met six times over the course of six months and adopted 10 recommendations with 26 action items representing a variety of policies and programs to address issues including education, training, recruitment, and retention of health care workers.

The advisory action plan:

- Presents a comprehensive analysis of current and future workforce challenges impacting the health care sector.
- Explores educational and training pathways to create a more diverse, equitable, and sustainable workforce. Identifies strategies to improve patient care and alleviate the burden on our health care workforce.
- Recommends solutions, including new policies and programs, modifications to existing programs, and necessary changes to state statutes.

View the advisory action plan – <https://bit.ly/3T6NRe3>

View a short summary of the action plan - <https://bit.ly/3yROPnD>

I hope you will join me in supporting the action plan and sharing it widely.



Family Caregiver Support

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

Nice to Know

Registration open for Planning Ahead fall session

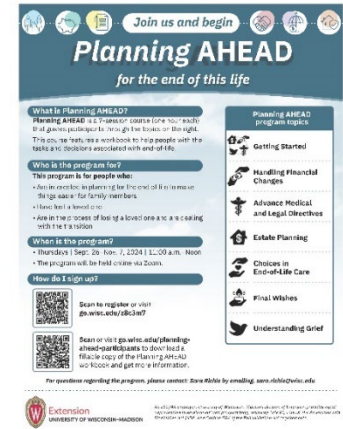
Planning AHEAD is a 7-session course (one hour each) that guides participants through a variety of topics. This course features a workbook to help people with the tasks and decisions associated with end-of-life.

Extension's Planning AHEAD Program focuses on helping participants know how to make preparations for advance care planning, financial planning, legal and living wills, and other end-of-life planning. The next session will be happening in September and October. All Wisconsin adults are eligible (and encouraged!) to enroll. Please share with the individuals and families you work with.

Information and registration:

<https://aging.extension.wisc.edu/programs/planning-ahead/>

View the flyer: <https://bit.ly/4cKOBN1>



Reminder: Families Like Mine 2024: Relative Caregivers for Children Conference Registration is open!

Saturday, September 14 | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Topics include:

- Office of Children's Mental Health
- Understanding the Juvenile Court Process: CHIPS & Minor Guardianship Cases
- Considering Forgiveness in an Unforgiving World
- Tabletop Discussion/Connection for relative caregivers
- Resources and Respite for Relative Caregivers of Children
- Wisconsin Wayfinder: A New Way to Find Resources
- An Introduction to Kids Matter Inc. Services



Registration and more information: <https://flm2024.eventbrite.com/>

Health Promotion

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

Need to Know

In Case You Missed It! Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar replay available

If you are responsible for health promotion (OAA Title III-D) programming at your Aging Unit or ADRC then this is a must-see webinar.

Webinar Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXutdELOugo>

The National Center to Reframe Aging gave a wonderful overview of their tools and resources. In addition, important updates were shared regarding the ARPA D funding extension and reauthorization of the Older Americans Act proposed revision of evidence-based guidelines for III-D funding. GWAAR recently learned

-continued-

that there has been an extension granted until September 2025 for ARPA B, D & E. At this point, it's important to start spending down your 2024 OAA Title III-D funds.

Over the next few weeks, I will be sending emails to those counties who have 60% or more of their 2024 III-D funds remaining. Please watch the portion of the webinar where Patrick Metz, GWAAR Fiscal Manager, explains this in more detail.

Patrick's discussion on ARPA funding: <https://youtu.be/NXutdELOugo?si=G8AlgfvezQcXss-s&t=2200>

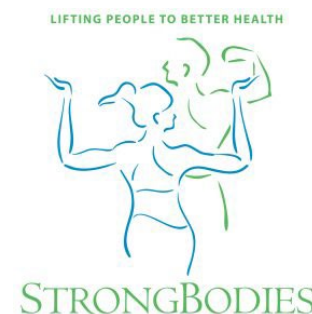
Nice to Know

Reminder: Online Health Promotion Programming Opportunity for OAA Title III D and ARPA D Funding UW Madison Extension Virtual StrongBodies Series

- Offered via Zoom
- Class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. weekly for 11-12 weeks
- AU/ADRC's can reserve individual spots for county residents (\$50/participant)

Reserve spots here: <https://bit.ly/3RmQjfc>

- After Extension receives your request for spots, you will be mailed invoice for payment, flyer for upcoming virtual series (customizable for local information) and link to online registration for the virtual class so you can register local residents.
- Participants demographic information will be sent to you for your Wellsky (SAMS) reporting after the registration deadline for each series.
* Participants will need to complete an attendance form and return it to the AU/ADRC to enter into Wellsky (SAMS). Several AU/ADRC's send the attendance log along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to collect the voluntary contributions.



Find out more about StrongBodies here: <https://healthyliving.extension.wisc.edu/programs/strongbodies/>

Upcoming 2024 Virtual StrongBodies series: Fall Series: October 1 - December 19 (registration deadline Friday, October 25 - to be a completer) For more information, contact Jen Whitty, Health Promotion Programs Coordinator, Health & Well-Being Institute, University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension at jennifer.whitty@wisc.edu

Medicare Outreach and Assistance

[Alyssa Kulpa](#), Medicare Outreach Coordinator

Nice to Know

Join the next Medicare Mingle on August 28th!

Wednesday, August 28 | 11:00 a.m.

Join Alyssa Kulpa, GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator, for the next Medicare Mingle on Wednesday, August 28th at 11:00am! Don't miss out on the chance to network with other SHIP counselors!

Medicare Mingles offers a relaxed environment for Wisconsin SHIP counselors to be able to connect with fellow counselors, share experiences, and get your Medicare outreach related questions answered.

Whether you're seeking advice on complex Medicare cases, looking for new outreach strategies, or simply

-continued-

wanting to network with your peers, Medicare Mingles are the perfect place to collaborate with your colleagues! Bring your questions, insights, and enthusiasm to the next Medicare Mingle. Medicare Mingles also provides a great opportunity to talk about the Medicare Open Enrollment period in the fall, to discuss how others are preparing for it!

If no specific topics are brought up, we may review the monthly Medicare Minute materials to ensure everyone is up to date with the latest Medicare topic for outreach. Together, we can create a strong network of support, share valuable knowledge, and make a significant impact on our communities!

Upcoming 2024 Medicare Mingle Dates:

August 28 | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84763095536?pwd=iw0VLDXGfOFRd9Y5n3br2YcdgASmOK.1>

Add to Outlook: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/tZAqceqopz4vGdJDJMTBCPSBRHFzWAKO4-tr/ics>

September 25 | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88386375662?pwd=u1y0yTm5dckmXjxdLBIpsVe4Ld3HYJ.1>

Add to Outlook: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwuf--rqT4sHNbEDmnlRgNLfLr7oenRSIM2/ics>

Nutrition

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

Nice to Know

EAT WELL, AGE WELL. Hispanic Heritage Month (October) resource now available

The latest resource for Eat Well, Age Well is now posted on the GWAAR website.

National Hispanic Heritage Month is annually celebrated from September 15 to October 15 to recognize the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States.

View the site: <https://gwaar.org/eat-well-age-well>

View the new resource: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008303>