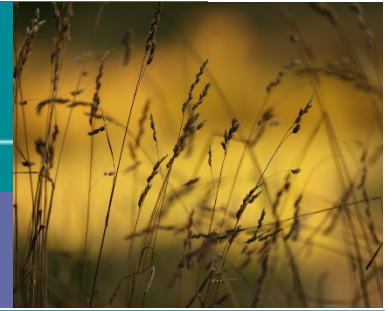




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## Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

### Need to Know

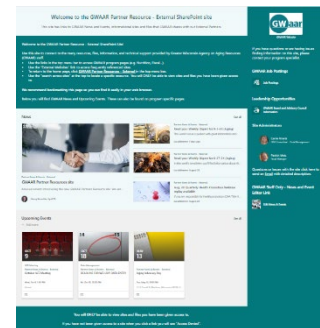
#### GWAAR Partners Resource site available for registered users

You'll find claim forms, and other training and webinar materials here, along with news, updates and upcoming events. This site is used by those in the Wisconsin Aging Network to access resources provided by GWAAR.

**Registration is required:** <https://gwaar.org/gpr-ext>

**Please note: The temporary document library (old SharePoint) will no longer be available starting September 13.**

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



### Nice to Know

#### Wisconsin Badger Football Ticket Lottery for Veterans (registration deadline Sept. 15)

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs announced it will distribute free tickets to the Veterans Day Wisconsin Badgers Salute to Veterans football game when the Badgers take on the Oregon Ducks at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison on Saturday, November 16.



With a limited number of free tickets available, Veterans and service members can register to win up to two tickets online through Sunday, September 15 at 11:59 p.m.

**View the ticket lottery form:** <https://applications.dva.wisconsin.gov/WDVASportingEventTickets>

#### Reminder: Leadership opportunities

GWAAR is looking for thoughtful, civic-minded, energetic individuals to serve on its 11-member board and 9-member Advisory Council. Members play a critical role in guiding and overseeing the agency's actions and initiatives. Candidates for these roles must live outside Dane and Milwaukee Counties and be able to devote time and energy to the GWAAR's governance, including:

- Serve at least one 3-year term on the board.
- Attend multiple meetings per year, often centrally located in the state. (Necessary expenses covered by GWAAR.)
- GWAAR's Board of Directors has 6-8 meetings/year
- GWAAR's Advisory Council has a minimum of four meetings/year

**Learn more:** <https://gwaar.org/leadership-opportunities>

## Reminder: 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: 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>



## 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

-continued-



## 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>

## Advocacy

*Janet Zander, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator*

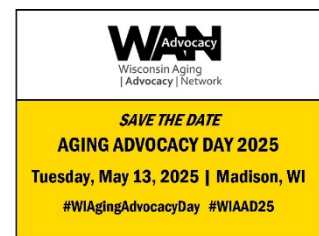
### Need to Know

#### Reminder: 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.

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

**Event sponsor opportunity:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008298>



### Nice to Know

#### Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition Webinar

Tuesday, September 17 | 12:00 p.m.

Webinar attendees will learn how to: Register or check registration; request an absentee ballot; vote early, in person; use the My Vote Wisconsin website; exercise basic voting rights; and how to request accommodations.

**Registration:** <https://bit.ly/DVCAreYouPrepared>

or scan the QR code on the flyer.

**View the flyer:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008312>



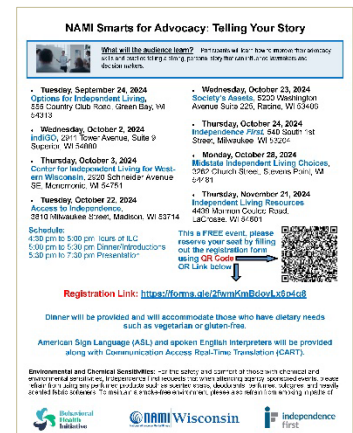
#### NAMI Smarts for Advocacy: Telling Your Story

NAMI is hosting local events throughout Wisconsin in September, October and November. Participants will learn how to improve their advocacy skills and practice telling a strong, personal story that can influence lawmakers and decision-makers. Locations include Green Bay, Superior, Menomonie, Madison, Racine, Milwaukee, Stevens Point and LaCrosse.

**View the flyer:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008313>

**View event dates, locations and registration:**

<https://forms.gle/2fwmKmbdoyLx6p4q8>



## Elder Benefit Services

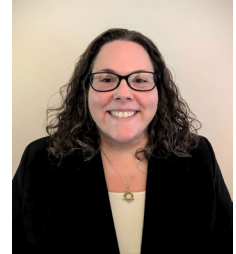
[Rich Lavigne](#), Legal Services Manager, Elder Law & Advocacy Center

### Nice to Know

#### Welcome Brittany Nelson, Benefit Specialist Supervising Attorney

Brittany graduated from Marquette University Law School in May 2024. Working with GWAAR will be her first attorney position, but she has done pro bono work in adult guardianships and disability rights.

Even though Brittany is a new attorney, she has experience working with lower income families as a public elementary school teacher in Indiana. This experience has helped her to understand the importance of ensuring that all people have access to the benefits and resources available to them. She is determined to help Wisconsin's low-income seniors gain equal access to quality legal services, the benefits, and the resources they deserve. Welcome Brittany!



## Family Caregiver Support

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

### Nice to Know

#### "A Day with Lewy" conference

Thursday, October 24, Waupun

Fall is just around the corner and so is the third "A Day with Lewy" conference.

This year's conference will be held in Waupun, WI on October 24. This conference is like no other conference as it focused solely on Lewy body disease (LBD). With Lewy body dementia being the second most progressive dementia only after Alzheimer's disease, it is still widely unknown by most people. Lewy is very different than Alzheimer's and has different challenges and needs which require different tools and supports than Alzheimer's.

Pending approval, continuing education for pharmacists, physicians, nurses, and social workers could be available. This conference is free to attend, which is made possible with help from people and organizations in our community coming together. With knowledge comes the power to make small changes that can make a big difference.

**Save the date flyer:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008314>

If you know anyone or another organization that would be a good resource for this event, please feel free to share and pass this opportunity on to them.

**View the sponsorship flyer:**

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008315>

You will find the different levels of sponsorships and what is included.

There are five resource times set up for attendees to visit with exhibitors throughout the day.



## New guide “Reaching Rural Kinship/Grandfamilies” now available

A newly released professional guide on “Reaching Rural Kinship/Grandfamilies” from the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network is now available.



**View the guide:**

<https://www.gksnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Reaching-Rural-Grandfamilies.pdf>

## Reminder: Registration open for Planning Ahead fall session

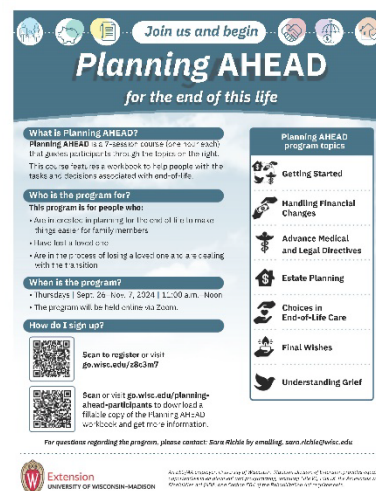
Planning AHEAD is a 7-session course (one hour each) that guides participants through a variety of topics. This course features a workbook to help people with the tasks and decisions associated with end-of-life.

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>



## Fiscal

*Carrie Kroetz* Older Americans Act Consultant – Data Management

### **Need to Know**

#### **Fiscal Webinar - ARPA C1 and C2 2024 De-Obligation and Re-Obligation Requests, 2025 Budget form**

*Friday, September 13 | 10:00 a.m.*

As the deadline for the ARPA C1 and C2 contracts approach (September 30th, 2024), your Aging Unit may have determined underspending or a need for additional funds.

If you have determined that your Aging Unit will need to de-obligate ARPA C1 or C2 funding as your agency is unable to spend the funds by the deadline, please complete the ARPA C1 and C2 2024 De-Obligation and Re-Obligation Requests form on the [GWAAR Partner Resources - External](#) Fiscal Resources SharePoint Site by September 30. Some Aging Units may be contacted by GWAAR program or fiscal staff after reviewing their claim expenditures to follow-up on anticipated spending by the deadline to ensure certain contract amounts are being spent or offered to de-obligate.

If you have determined that your Aging Unit could use additional funds within ARPA C1 or C2 funding, please complete the ARPA C1 and C2 2024 De-Obligation and Re-Obligation Requests form on the [GWAAR Partner Resources - External](#) Fiscal Resources SharePoint Site by September 30th. Some Aging Units may be contacted by GWAAR program or fiscal staff after reviewing their claim expenditures to follow-up on anticipated spending or review a need for additional funds. Completing this form does not guarantee additional funding will be provided, as that will be determined by available de-obligated funds.

*-continued-*

Any re-obligated funds are to be used for January-September 2024 expenses only and must be expensed by the September 2024 Claim form.

Webinar Notice: Topics will include information from the 08/23/24 memo, de-obligations/re-obligations, 2025 budget form and other topics.

**[Register for Fiscal Webinar 09/13/24 10am-11am:](#)**

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ac058f2b-6bd5-4a66-bc09-093d3e95b6df@8e087664-409d-4c4c-a6b4-7aa01020d6ea>

**[GWAAR Partner Resources - External Fiscal Resources SharePoint Site:](#)**

<https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/sites/PartnerResources>

### **Reminder: Wellsky Title III data deadline Oct. 18 (RUN 9/17)**

This year's deadline to enter in Title III services to Wellsky/SAMS AND make sure all client and service data is accurate for the reporting period **October 2023-September 2024** is **October 18th!** For fiscal claim forms, your September (and all prior monthly claims) are due by **November 8th!** This information is then used for the GWAAR region and State of Wisconsin Federal Older American's Act Report.

If, upon reviewing and correcting data, services are removed from Title III to Title VI, NOAA or Family Care, as examples, you must let your fiscal staff know as it will impact your claim forms.

The list of Error and Informational reports to run can be found on the GWAAR Data Management "old" SharePoint Site, along with an instructional guide. We are continuing to work on providing users access to the new GWAAR Partner Resource site.

Thank you, everyone, for your continued work on this and all the hard work you put into it throughout the year! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or book an appointment with me.

[carrie.kroetz@gwaar.org](mailto:carrie.kroetz@gwaar.org)

**[Carrie Kroetz - Appointment Scheduler \(office365.com\)](#)**

<https://outlook.office365.com/book/CarrieKroetzAppointmentScheduler@gwaar.org/>

## **Health Promotion**

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

### ***Need to Know***

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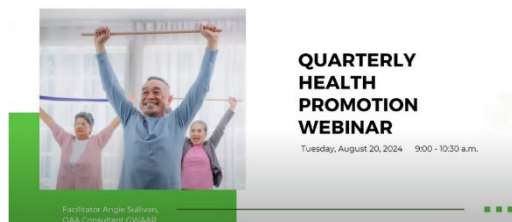
#### **In Case You Missed It! Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar replay available**

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.

*-continued-*



GWAAR recently learned 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>

### Save the Date 2025 Quarterly Health Promotion webinars

- Tuesday, February 4, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 6, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, August 5, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, November 4, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

### Nice to Know

#### Falls Prevention Awareness Month (FPAM) Governor's Proclamation

Governor Evers recently released a proclamation for Falls Prevention Awareness Month in Wisconsin. See the proclamation for Falls Prevention Awareness Month in Wisconsin. See the proclamation below and share widely throughout your communities, in addition to the other FPAM materials available at FallsFreeWI.org

**View the proclamation:** <https://fallsfreewi.org/governor-proclaims-september-as-falls-prevention-awareness-month/>

**Visit the site:** <https://fallsfreewi.org/>

Questions? Contact [suzanne.morley@wihealthyaging.org](mailto:suzanne.morley@wihealthyaging.org), Health Promotion Coordinator at the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA).



## Medicare Outreach and Assistance

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*Alyssa Kulpa, Medicare Outreach Coordinator*

### **Nice to Know**

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#### **Fall Medicare Training for Wisconsin Professionals**

*Register for each webinar you wish to attend.*

The Wisconsin SHIP network coordinates a free training series on Medicare updates before the Medicare Open Enrollment Period every year. This year's webinars take place *September 30 through October 2*.



**The 2024 Fall Medicare Training agenda is now available.** The agenda includes information about registration, presentation content and materials, recordings, continuing education credits, accommodations, and additional resources.

**2024 Fall Medicare Training Agenda:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007858>

**Who should attend?** All professionals who work with Medicare beneficiaries or want to learn more about Medicare updates are invited. Some of the trainings are required for SHIP counselors; see the agenda for details. Presenters will assume that attendees have a basic understanding of Medicare and will focus on Medicare updates. Attendees who want refresher trainings on Medicare basics are encouraged to view the Medicare training resources listed in the agenda.

**How do I register?** The registration links can be found on the agenda. You must register for each training you wish to attend. You should receive a confirmation email for each successful registration.

Please send questions to the Wisconsin SHIP Director, Michelle Grochocinski, at [michelle.grochocinski@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:michelle.grochocinski@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

#### **Continuing Education Units (CEUs) now available for Basic SHIP Counselor trainings!**

Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is offering a series of live virtual trainings on Medicare topics for basic-level SHIP counselors. Intended audience: SHIP counselors who are newer or would like a refresher are welcome to join all or some of the trainings. These optional trainings are geared towards “basic-level” SHIP counselors, such as volunteers and case managers. However, benefit specialists and other advanced-certified SHIP counselors are also welcome. These trainings do not take the place of the fall Medicare update trainings. Attendees should complete the prerequisite on-demand trainings listed in the SHIP Counselor Onboarding Checklist prior to attending.

**SHIP Counselor Onboarding Checklist:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007832>

**Basic SHIP Counselor Training Registration Instructions:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008069>

September 2024 Basic SHIP Counselor training dates:

- Monday, September 9, 10–11 a.m. SHIP and MIPPA New Counselor Orientation
- Tuesday, September 10, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. Original Medicare
- Wednesday, September 11, 10–11 a.m. Medicare Supplements
- Tuesday, September 17, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. Medicare Advantage
- Wednesday, September 18, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. Medicare Part D
- Thursday, September 19, 10–11:30 a.m. Medicare.gov Plan Finder

Please send questions about the trainings to the Disability Rights Wisconsin, Medicare Part D Helpline Medicare Part D Program Coordinator, Ginger Rogers, at [ginger.rogers@drwi.org](mailto:ginger.rogers@drwi.org)

*-continued-*



## CEU opportunity

Participants who attend trainings live will be able to request Continuing Education Hours or Units (CEHs and CEUs)! Previously it was shared that they would not be available. The CEH/CEU is being provided through University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, an accredited university. The continuing education certificate may cover several professions from social workers, counselors, educators, etc. The training attendee can submit the CEH certificate to their area of practice for approval. Please email Pam Watson, MIPPA grant program coordinator, at [pamela.watson@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:pamela.watson@dhs.wisconsin.gov) with questions about CEUs.

## Nutrition

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

### Nice to Know

#### Reminder: September is National Food Safety Education Month!

Partnership for Food Safety Education invites you to participate in the Collective Day of Action on Wednesday, Sept. 18. using their toolkit. The day aims to unite educators, partners and federal liaisons to create a loud voice across social media channels. The theme for the day will be "From Farm to Fork," sharing the story of the chain of prevention and why safe food handling is important for good health. Remember to use the hashtags #NFSEM2024 and #dayofaction.



Learn more: <https://www.fightbac.org/nfsem/>

View the toolkit:

<https://www.fightbac.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/NFSEM-2024-Idea-Generator.pdf>

#### Reminder: EAT WELL, AGE WELL. Hispanic Heritage Month (October) is now posted on the GWAAR website at <https://gwaar.org/eat-well-age-well>

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

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008303>

## Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

[Ingrid A. Kundering](#), Senior Medicare Patrol Program Director

### Nice to Know

#### Reminder: The Fall 2024 edition of The Scoop now available

The Fall 2024 edition of the Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol's quarterly newsletter – The Scoop is now available. Are you ready for Medicare's Open Enrollment Period? This issue includes information and reminders for this enrollment period, along with information on falls prevention, an introduction of new team members, a review of vaccines covered by Medicare, and so much more!

Read the Fall 2024 issue of The Scoop:

<https://www.smpwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/SMP-Scoop-Newsletter-Fall-2024.pdf>

