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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

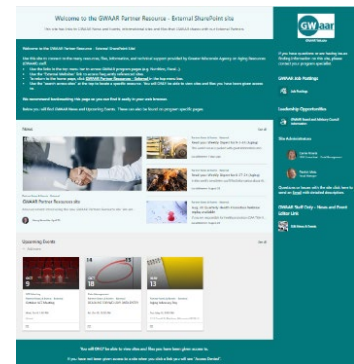
Reminder: GWAAR Partners Resource site available for registered users

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: Effective September 20, the temporary document library (old SharePoint) will no longer be available.

If you have any issues or questions related to the new site, please contact SharePointAdmins@gwaar.org.



Nice to Know

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.

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

Advocacy

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

Need to Know

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

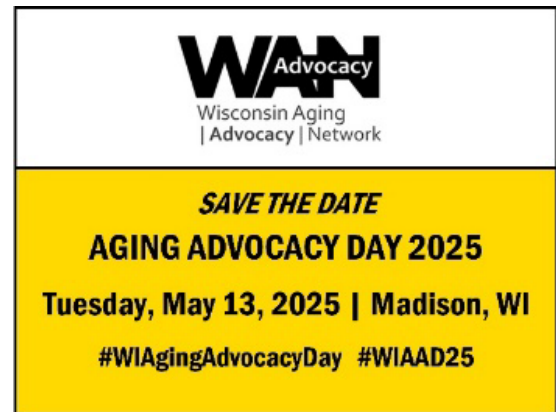
The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) will hold our 9th Annual Aging Advocacy Day (AAD) 2025 event in Madison on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Updates available at

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

Event sponsor opportunity:

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



Nice to Know

Reminder: 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>


NAMI Smarts for Advocacy: Telling Your Story

What will the audience learn? Participants will learn how to improve their advocacy skills and practice telling a strong, personal story that can influence lawmakers and decision-makers.

- **Tuesday, September 24, 2024**
Options for Independent Living, indiGO, 2911 Tower Avenue, Suite 9, Superior, WI 54880
- **Wednesday, October 2, 2024**
Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, 2920 Schneider Avenue SE, Menomonie, WI 54751
- **Tuesday, October 22, 2024**
Access to Independence, 3810 Milwaukee Street, Madison, WI 53714
- **Wednesday, October 23, 2024**
Society's Assets, 5200 Washington Avenue Suite 225, Racine, WI 53406
- **Thursday, October 24, 2024**
Independence First, 540 South 1st Street, Milwaukee, WI 53204
- **Monday, October 28, 2024**
Midstate Independent Living Choices, 3262 Church Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481
- **Thursday, November 21, 2024**
Independent Living Resources, 4439 Mormon Coulee Road, LaCrosse, WI 54601

Schedule:
4:30 pm to 5:00 pm Tours of ILC
5:00 pm to 5:30 pm Dinner/Introductions
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm Presentation

This a FREE event, please reserve your seat by filling out the registration form using QR Code OR Link below






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

Dinner will be provided and will accommodate those who have dietary needs such as vegetarian or gluten-free.

American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English interpreters will be provided along with Communication Access Real-Time Translation (CART).

Environmental and Chemical Sensitivities: For the safety and comfort of those with chemical and environmental sensitivities, Independence First requests that when attending agency-sponsored events, please refrain from using any perfumed products such as scented soaps, deodorants, perfumes, colognes, and heavily scented fabric softeners. To maintain a smoke-free environment, please also refrain from smoking in paths of

 Behavioral Health Initiative  NAMI Wisconsin  independence first

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

Next Caregiver Coordinator Statewide Meeting agenda available

Monday, September 24 | 10:00 a.m.

The Caregiver Coordinator Statewide Meeting Agenda is ready.

View the agenda: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008317>

Nice to Know

Caring Better & Braver event

Saturday, October 26 | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

A day of self-care & learning for family caregivers.

Main Speaker: Kari Berit Event Highlights: S.A.N.E. Caregiver Stress & Wellbeing Long-Term Care End of Life Social Connection

When: Saturday, October 26, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20 / person Lunch Included

Where: Holmen Area Community Center 600 N Holmen Dr Suite 200 Holmen, WI 54636

The event is open to caregivers in all counties!

More information: <https://lacrossecounty.org/>

<https://www.lacrossecounty.org/adrc/events-workshops/event-details/2024/10/26/adrc-events/caring-better-braver>

Register by October 14:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegZcBQnVo6-mDATn9I9aQRH4g6khdBFc-qEBmfxvbpWrlGFw/viewform>

Or call the ADRC of LaCrosse County at 608-785-5700.

This event is brought to you by:



Reminder: 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: "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.

SAVE THE DATE!

A Day with Lewy

Lewy Body Dementia and the Caregiving Journey
Presented by the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Dodge and Jefferson Counties, Lewy Body Dementia Association, Lewy Body Dementia Resource Center, University of Wisconsin Whitewater and SSM Health

Thursday, October 24, 2024

8:00am - 4:00pm

Discover caregiver resources and hear from expert keynotes.

Edgewood Community Church
201 Edgewood Drive
Waupun, WI 53963

Learn new skills and connect with local experts.

For more information, Contact Rob Griesel at
920-386-4308

SSM Health, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WHITEWATER, ADRC, LEWY BODY DEMENTIA RESOURCE CENTER, Lewy Body Dementia Association, Inc.

Pending CE credits for professionals. Sponsorship is not an endorsement by the conference planning committee or their representing agencies.

Fiscal

[Carrie Kroetz](#) Older Americans Act Consultant – Data Management

Need to Know

Important Dates and information for PeerPlace Training

PeerPlace Training Details:

Key Dates (tentative):

- September 16, 2024 - Users will be granted access to the PeerPlace training environment.
- October 18, 2024 - WellSky Aging users' deadline for data entry. After this date services entered prior to September 30, 2024 will be locked down to prepare for ACL Federal Reporting.
- October 29, 2024 - all WellSky data will be locked down to read-only access to prepare for the transition to PeerPlace. Users will continue to have read-only access through the end of the year.
- November 6, 2024 - PeerPlace "go-live" date. Users may begin entering data into the PeerPlace system.

[PeerPlace Training Details page](#), this page contains detailed information related to PeerPlace training including live webinar schedules, live webinar registration links, user group information, and key dates.

Upcoming PeerPlace Functionality Training for Aging program staff:

- Nutrition Advanced Functionality Webinar on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, 2–4:30 p.m. ([registration link](#))
- Transportation Advanced Functionality Webinar on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, 2–3:30 p.m. ([registration link](#))
- Other Programs Advanced Functionality Webinar on Thursday, October 10, 2024, 2–3:30 p.m. ([registration link](#)) (Note: This training encompasses Adult Day Care, Case Management, Health Promotion, In-Home Supportive Services, Aging I&A, Outreach, Recreation & Socialization, and Other Services.)
- Caregiver Advanced Functionality Webinar on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 2–3:30 p.m. ([registration link](#))
- Senior Center Advanced Functionality Webinar on Thursday, October 24, 2024, 2–3:30 p.m. ([registration link](#)) (Note: This training is for Milwaukee AAA and providers only.)
- Volunteer Management Advanced Functionality Webinar on Thursday, October 31, 2024, from 2–3:30 p.m. ([registration link](#))

Training for all users

PeerPlace Core Functionality Webinar is required for all users.

This required training is applicable for all PeerPlace users in the Wisconsin ADRC, Aging, and Tribal partner network.

These live trainings were held on September 11th and 12th and recordings for these trainings, and all trainings, is located on the PeerPlace Webinar Recordings site.

PeerPlace Webinar Recordings: [PeerPlace Overview Webinar recording](#)

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/11338036/video/1003271603>

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

The Fiscal Staff hosted a webinar on 9/13/24 to review information from the memos that went out on 8/23 and 9/10 - covering 2024 Waivers - IIIE Case Management Waiver – I&A, 2023 Carryover funds, 2024 Transfer requests, ARPA funds expiring (and extensions) as well as a few new updates. This has been posted on the GWAAR Partner Resources - External site, under Fiscal Resources in the Fiscal Files library.

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

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

Reminder: Wellsky Title III data deadline Oct. 18

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, along with an instructional guide, can be found on the GWAAR Partner Resource SharePoint site under Aging Programs-Data Management.

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

[Carrie Kroetz - Appointment Scheduler \(office365.com\)](https://office365.com/CarrieKroetzAppointmentScheduler@gwaar.org/)

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

Nice to Know

Dollars & Sense

Check this section for the answers to your Fiscal questions. Watch upcoming issues of the newsletter for more updates!

Q: When is the GWAAR Claim Form due?

A: Each agency/provider must submit a monthly claim form even if no contract dollars are being expended. Claim Forms are to be submitted accurately by the 5th of each month in order for payment to be processed. If the 5th lands on a weekend or holiday the claim will be due the following business day.

Q: What expenses should be included on the GWAAR Claim Form?

A: Only costs related to Title III services must be reported on the claim form. All costs related to Family Care, IRIS, 85.21/85.215, Title VI or NOAA non-eligible private pay services expenses should be subtracted from the overall costs before Title III expenses are determined.

Q: What revenues should be included on the GWAAR Claim Form?

A: Only revenues related to Title III services must be reported on the claim form. Revenues received related to Family Care, IRIS, 85.21/85.215, Title VI or NOAA non-eligible private pay services should not be included on the GWAAR claim form and must be subtracted from the overall revenues before Title III is determined.

Health Promotion

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

Need to Know

Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar: Save the Date! Register today.

Tuesday, November 19 | 9:00-10:30 a.m.

This webinar will feature an overview of the Wisconsin Guardian Support Center by Polly Shoemaker, WI Guardian Support Center Attorney. In addition, we will be discussing the findings from the recent Diversity, Equity & Inclusion self-assessment that was distributed recently. A more detailed agenda will be released in October.

Contact Angie Sullivan, OAA Consultant - Health Promotion/GWAAR if you have any questions angela.sullivan@gwaar.org.

Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApdOqorTsiE9xGw-QQmuuACkK6iN81PstW>

Reminder: 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.

Virtual intergenerational art program available

Are older adults in your community looking for a fun, creative way to connect with others from different generations? Scripps AVID is a research-based, intergenerational art program, and perfect for older adults.



Program Highlights

- Younger and older adults of different generations will be matched to virtually meet weekly.
- Work together on art-based activities such as visual art, music, poetry, and stories.
- No artistic background is necessary to join. Lots of examples and prompts are provided.
- Benefits of joining: Opportunities for creative self-expression, developing communication skills, and social engagement with different generations.

Program Details

- Start Date - First week of October 2024
- Time and Duration - Minimum of 30 minutes a week for approximately 11 weeks
- Location - Anywhere you feel most comfortable and have access to the Internet.
- Cost - FREE

*You may be asked to complete pre - and post-surveys.

Questions or information on signing up, please contact Krysta Peterson, 440-340-8537 or ScrippsAVID@MiamiOH.edu

For more information, visit the Scripps AVID webpage: <https://avid.scrippsoma.org/>
<https://avid.scrippsoma.org/get-started/>

Nice to Know

Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) Special Update Just Released!

The 2025 Facilitator Training Schedule is set! Start planning for 2025. This year, with more in-person options and trainings for both Healthy Living with Diabetes and Healthy Living with Chronic Pain. Click on the link below to see the full schedule by program.

View the 2025 training schedule:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/cba79bee701/ec587a36-078d-46fb-955a-70ea525e24.pdf?rdr=true>

Hurry, trainings full up fast. Please be sure to register early.

2025 training schedule with registration:

<https://wihealthyaging.org/for-professionals/become-a-facilitator/facilitator-training-schedule/>



Reminder: 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, Health Promotion Coordinator at the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA).



Medicare Outreach and Assistance

Alyssa Kulpa, Medicare Outreach Coordinator

Nice to Know

Reminder: 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? Registration links can be on the agenda. You must register for each training you wish to attend. You should receive a confirmation email for each successful registration.

Questions? Contact Wisconsin SHIP Director, Michelle Grochocinski, at michelle.grochocinski@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Reminder: 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>

Next September 2024 Basic SHIP Counselor training dates:

- 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

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 with questions about CEUs.