

# Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

#### Need to Know

#### Final 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: <u>carrie.kroetz@gwaar.org</u> | Carrie Kroetz - Appointment Scheduler (office365.com):

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

#### Reminder: Budget Issue for AAAs and Aging Units: AFCSP as Match for NFCSP

*In case you missed it:* Fiscal Manager Patrick Metz recently shared an update on a policy change memo from the Bureau on Aging and Disability Resources (BADR).

Read the full update: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008348

#### Nice to Know

#### ACE meeting replay, handouts and survey available

Thank you to the attendees of the virtual ACE Meeting on October 9! Please take a moment to complete or our short ACE Meeting survey that was emailed on Monday, Oct. 14. We value your input as it assists us with the planning process.

#### October 9, 2024 ACE Meeting Survey: https://bit.ly/3ZZVMOB



If you wish to view the ACE meeting recording, supporting documents and presentations, they can be found on our new GWAAR Partners Resource-External site, a newly developed GWAAR SharePoint site for use by GWAAR Aging Units and others --<u>ACE</u> <u>Meetings</u>. (https://bit.ly/4eHQ1K1)

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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, as well as other important resources.

Partner Users must register to access this site. <u>Registration for the GWAAR Partner Resource-External</u> <u>Site: https://bit.ly/469NsNq</u> You should receive access information within 3-5 business days. If you have any questions about the registration process, you may contact <u>Carrie.Kroetz@gwaar.org</u>.

#### Free COVID-19 tests available, including more accessible option

Beginning in late September, every U.S. household can order free at-home COVID-19 tests through a partnership between the U.S. Department of Health



and Human Services Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and the United States Postal Service (USPS). These tests will detect the currently circulating COVID-19 variants and are intended for use through the end of 2024. Each order will include four tests. One of the available options is the Orasure InteliSwab test, which is more accessible for people who are blind or have low vision, as well as people who have low manual dexterity.

Additional information, including ordering instructions is available here: <u>ACL.gov/AccessibleTests</u>.

The order form and additional explanation about the features that make the InteliSwab test more accessible are here: <u>https://special.usps.com/testkits/accessible</u>

# COVID-19 At Home Testing Digital Toolkit available

This toolkit contains messages you can share in your newsletter or on your social media channels to encourage people to order free tests. Copy these words directly or customize them to reach your audience. Then, choose and download the image(s) you would like to share. The images are sized for each social media platform.

Visit the toolkit: https://aspr.hhs.gov/COVID-19/Test/Pages/toolkit.aspx

# Reminder: Leadership opportunities – GWAAR Board of Directors and Advisory Council

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.

Learn more: https://gwaar.org/leadership-opportunities

# **Reminder: VSDP Care Consultant Employment Opportunity**

The Veteran Self-Directed Program (VSDP) Care Consultant, in conjunction with the Veteran and their family, 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

#### VOTE – General Election – Nov. 5, 2024

F or more information about the General Election and to see what is on your ballot go to <u>MyVote Wisconsin</u>: <u>https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/</u>

Check out <u>VOTE411</u> for information about the candidates on your ballot: <u>https://www.vote411.org/ballot</u>

For information regarding rides to the polls, see <u>https://disabilityvote.org/2024/rides-to-the-polls-2024/</u>. For additional voter resources, including information regarding the Nov. 5 Constitutional Amendment question ( see <u>Fact Sheet-Sept-2024</u>), check out the Disability Vote Coalition materials at: <u>https://disabilityvote.org/resources/</u>.

#### Registration Deadlines for the Nov. election:

- By Mail: Wednesday, October 16, 2024
- In Person: Tuesday, November 5, 2024
- Online: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 (Register to vote!)

#### Absentee Voting Deadlines:

- Request for Absentee Ballot (Received by date): Oct. 31 by 5 p.m.
- Return Ballot by Mail (Received by date): Nov. 5 by 8 p.m.
- Return Absentee Ballot In-Person: Nov. 5 by 8 p.m.

#### Voting Deadlines:

- Early Voting (In-Person Absentee): Varies by location
- In Person: Tuesday, November 5, 2024

#### Older Americans Act (OAA) – FFY 2025 Budget Update

In late September, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the government funded until Dec. 20, 2024. On Fri, Sept. 28, President Biden signed the CR into law.

As a refresher, the House and Senate released their FY 2025 proposed bills over the summer with the House bill including increases to OAA Title III B, III E and Title VI but with cuts to other key aging programs (OAA Title III C1 and C2 Nutrition Services programs, Adult Protective Services and the OAA's Title V -Senior Community Service Employment Program). The Senate bill rejected House-proposed cuts and included level-funding for OAA programs. See USAging's <u>appropriations chart</u> for specific details.

Passage of the CR buys Congress more time to negotiate FY 2025 appropriations. **Our goal remains to keep the House increases to OAA Title III B, III E and Title VI, with the Senate's better recommendations for the other priorities in the final bill.** 

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# ACTION NEEDED:

Contact your federal legislators as soon as possible and ask to see them in person (their local office, your office, site visit, or other community location). During your meeting provide stories and data to remind them why funding for OAA programs is critical! Members of Congress will be home in their states and local districts throughout the month of October and until shortly after the November election. Election outcomes will be a key factor in a final bill being passed before the end of the year or punted into the new year with the next Congress.

- With your Representative back in the district and Senators Baldwin and Johnson now back in the state, now is the time to engage them in person to remind them of why funding for OAA programs is critical! Please use <u>USAging's FY 2025 appropriations campaign page</u> for additional advocacy resources and guidance on how to engage your Members of Congress! *View the page:* <u>https://www.usaging.org/content.asp?admin=Y&contentid=1618</u>
- Find your Members' contact information on their websites: <u>www.house.gov</u> and <u>www.senate.gov</u> (or see Wisconsin Members of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007697).

#### Nice to Know

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

NAMI is hosting local events throughout Wisconsin through November. Participants will learn how to improve their advocacy skills and practice telling a strong, personal story that can influence lawmakers and decision-makers. Upcoming locations include Madison, Racine, Milwaukee, Stevens Point, and LaCrosse.

View the flyer: https://qwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008313

View event dates, locations and registration: <u>https://forms.gle/2fwmKmBdoyLx6p4q8</u>



# Data Management

<u>Carrie Kroetz</u> 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.



DHS PeerPlace Training

November 6, 2024 - PeerPlace "go-live" date. Users may begin entering data into the PeerPlace system.

<u>PeerPlace Training Details page</u>, 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:

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. (<u>registration</u> 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)

#### PeerPlace Drop-in calls (all users)

- Wisconsin: Post Go Live Drop In Call #1 Tuesday, November 12, 2-4 p.m.
  <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2354458358349065054</u>
- Wisconsin: Post Go Live Drop In Call #2 Tuesday, November 19, 9-11 a.m.
  <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3224683328826836827</u>
- Wisconsin: Reporting Advanced Training Wednesday, December 4, 2-3:30 p.m.
  <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2293953332984252503</u>

Note: Links to these webinars will also be sent out via GovD at the end of the week.

#### Upcoming PeerPlace Functionality Training for EBS, DBS and DCS program staff:

EBS/DBS Custom Forms Wednesday, October 30, 2-4 p.m. (live webinar 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 11 and 12, and recordings for these trainings, and all trainings, are located on the PeerPlace Webinar Recordings site.

PeerPlace Webinar Recordings: PeerPlace Overview Webinar recording

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

# Family Caregiver Support

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

#### Need to Know

#### National Family Caregiver Month (NFCM) Statewide Marketing Toolkit

The 2024 National Family Caregiver Month (NFCM) Statewide Marketing Toolkit is now available! "This is your one-stop-stop-shop for Marketing Materials! The Toolkit aims to provide comprehensive resources and materials supporting unified messaging and outreach efforts across Wisconsin's 72 counties and 11 federally recognized tribes during November. The Toolkit also aims to equip local



organizations, agencies, and relevant parties with tools to effectively promote NFCM in newsletters, social media, and print, engaging target audiences and amplifying the reach of the statewide campaign."

#### Toolkit Messaging:

https://respitecarewi.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Marketing-Toolkit-Messaging-2024.docx.pdf Content for each week of National Family Caregiver Month: https://wisconsincaregiver.org/

#### Nice to Know

#### Reminder: NCOA Email Basics Virtual Workshop TOMORROW

Wednesday, October 16 | 12:00 p.m.

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is collaborating with AT&T in a nationwide effort to ensure older adults can engage in workshops and a self-paced online

curriculum designed to improve digital literacy. Share the link below and encourage older adults in your community to learn more about their digital tools.

Registration link: https://connect.ncoa.org/products/email-basics-virtual-workshop

#### **Boost Your Brain & Memory Program webinar**

#### Thursday, December 5 | 12:00 p.m.

From the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute. Attend this one-hour "how-to" webinar to learn about the evidence-based Boost Your Brain & Memory Program. The program takes a holistic approach to improving brain health and teaches individuals strategies to lower their dementia risk. The webinar is free, but registration is required.

https://uwmadison.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tJUkcemrrTgiGNLWQfasJ4DH-tNhWG7EjJQp#/registration

View the flyer: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008352





#### Caring Better & Braver event - free

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

How does a day of self-care & learning for family caregivers sound?

Please share with any caregivers you work with and please consider attending yourself!

The CARING BETTER & BRAVER event, hosted by LaCrosse County ADRC, is FREE thanks to generous donors! Enjoy a free lunch, social connections, learn tips to reduce stress and improve wellbeing, and MORE!

# To learn more, click here:

https://www.facebook.com/share/p/AwS5nAR66VBxy7eZ/

View the flyer:

https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008353

# CARING BETTER & BRAVER Calay of self-care & learning for family caregires. Main Speaker: Kari Berit

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

Lunch Included



Register Now!

# Reminder: "A Day with Lewy" conference – Registration deadline today

Thursday, October 24, | 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Edgewood Community Church, 201 Edgewood Drive, Waupun, WI 53963

*Lewy Body Dementia and the Caregiving Journey:* Discover caregiver resources and supports. Learn new skills and connect with experts.

Pending CE credits for professionals such as Nurses, Physicians, Pharmacists, and Social Workers.

# Register by October 15, 2024, at: <u>www.co.dodge.wi.gov/lewy</u>

Below is the link you will find the registration information for this year's A Day with Lewy Conference being held in Waupun, WI on October 24. The second link offers sponsorship information. This is a free event for attendees. Registration is required and space is limited. If you are interested in volunteering or helping in another way, please reach out to Rob Griesel at <u>rgriesel@co.dodge.wi.us</u> or 920-386-4308. Please share this information with everyone who could benefit from knowing more about Lewy body dementia, the second most common progressive dementia.

Registration: www.co.dodge.wi.gov/lewy

Event 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.





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Thank you for your support 17C-SIG-4308 or <u>coriosol(3</u> )	closuse contact Rob Gricsel at

# **Fiscal**

#### <u>Carrie Kroetz</u> Older Americans Act Consultant – Data Management

#### Need to Know

#### September Claim and 2024 De-Ob/Re-Ob Requests

- The September claim is expected to be posted this week on GWAAR Partner Resource Fiscal Resources site and will include the AFCSP Carryover. Unfortunately, BADR has yet to receive the transfer amendment so these funds will not be on the claim form.
- The 2024 Re-Ob/De-Ob Request form link will be posted this week on the Fiscal Resources site. This form will be used to request to de-obligate and re-obligate funds from Title III B-C1-C2-D-E, SSCS, Alzheimer's\*, EBS, or Elder Abuse contract funds. (\*Only if your contract is with GWAAR.) Please complete by December 15th, 2024.
- If you are completing a Re-Obligation request, by completing this form you are requesting additional contract funding, if available, which must be spent by December 31st, 2024, for expenses from January-December 2024. By completing this form, you also understand that any requests are not guaranteed and must be claimed by the Final Claim form, due March 5th, 2025.

#### Reminder: GWAAR Fiscal Fall Training (in-person)

#### Friday, November 1 | 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join us this November for our Fiscal Fall Training! This is our kick-off to next year's regional trainings, where the theme will be **"Making Cents of the Funding Puzzle,"** focusing on the fiscal changes ahead that will be happening in the aging network. At this time, it is unclear if virtual attendance or a recording will be available. (These trainings will be for Aging contracts, not Elder Abuse.)



# Training Details:

DATE: Friday, November 1, 2024 TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. LOCATION: The Commons - 2801 Hoover Road Stevens Point, WI 54481 FEE: No cost LUNCH: Will be provided REGISTRATION FORM: Fiscal Fall Registration Form **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 3PM** 

View the flyer for agenda and hotel information: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008347

#### Reminder: 2025 Preliminary Budget

Due to recently applied changes, an updated 2025 Preliminary Budget was posted on the <u>GWAAR Partner</u> <u>Resources - External SharePoint site</u>, please make sure you are using the most recent version. All Aging Units and Elder Abuse sub-recipients are required to submit a Preliminary Budget by November 8, as well as a Final Budget - deadline to be determined in the spring.

#### 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: How often does match need to be met?

A: While GWAAR Fiscal staff encourages match to be met monthly, match in the form of Cash (e.g., county or tribal funds), In-Kind (volunteer hours estimated cost) or the use of AFCSP expenses as Match must be met by the end of each quarter for each contract (not necessarily each service line). \*\*In 2025 AFCSP used as match will be discontinued.



# Q: We have more Cash Match (tax levy) in our Home Delivered Meals program than needed to meet the minimum requirement. Can we apply the over-match difference to our Homemaker program?

A: Match cannot be expensed in one service and applied in a different service. By incorrectly applying match can over or under report the true costs of that service and skew data for the Federal Report.

# Nutrition

<u>Pam VanKampen</u>, Older Americans Act Consultant - Nutrition Specialist/Senior Center Representative

#### Nice to Know

#### The next Meal Prioritization Office Hours call is Oct. 18.

The Nutrition team will also be hosting an important call for all programs using or looking at Meal Prioritization and Waitlists on November 8. We will discuss a required process to follow and some important updates during this meeting. The call will be recorded for those that are unable to attend.

The link below will be used for all Office Hours and Meal Prioritization Calls for the rest of the year.

#### Save the date:

Oct 18 - Office hours Meal Prioritization

**Nov. 8** - Important Update Call for all programs using or anticipate using the Meal Prioritization process or implementing a waitlist. The agenda will be sent closer to the date.

Dec. 6 - Office hours Meal Prioritization

#### Meeting link:

Join the meeting now (https://bit.ly/3XLcjEU) | Meeting ID: 290 848 179 447 | Passcode: A4aREM Dial in by phone | +1 608-338-1382,,451418114# United States, Madison

Find a local number | Phone conference ID: 451 418 114#