



Volume 6, No. 43 October 22, 2024
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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

GWAAR's Draft 2025-2027 Aging Plan public hearing

Wednesday, November 6 | 1:00 -2:30 p.m.

The Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. (GWAAR) would like your input on the draft GWAAR 2025-2027 Aging Plan. The feedback provided will help improve the quality of the plan, leading to more comprehensive and effective solutions. public hearings are essential for ensuring that plans are developed in a transparent, inclusive, and democratic manner. They help build trust, improve decision-making, and promote the legitimacy and success of plans by incorporating community input and addressing concerns early in the process.



View GWAAR's 2025-2027 Aging Plan draft: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008356

Here are the ways you can provide feedback on the draft plan:

- Attend the virtual public hearing on November 6, 2024, at 1 pm. At the beginning of the public hearing there will be a brief overview of the draft goals. Here is the login and call information:
 Microsoft Teams Meeting: https://bit.ly/3NBp3I0 | Meeting ID: 288 186 722 849 | Passcode: azvoKN Dial in by phone +1 608-338-1382,,197149728# | Phone conference ID: 197 149 728#
- 2. **Provide feedback through a Survey:** https://forms.office.com/r/ELYw1TVaEL. The survey will conclude on November 7, 2024, at noon.
- You can provide written comments to the address below. Deadline for written comments is November 7, 2024, at noon. Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. 1414 MacArthur Road, Suite A Madison, WI 53714
- 4. **You can request a copy of the draft plan** by contacting us at info@gwaar.org or (608) 243-5670 This information can also be found on the GWAAR website: https://gwaar.org/gwaar-2025-2027-aging-plan-public-hearing-process

Nice to Know

GWAAR employment opportunities: Medicare Outreach Coordinator, VSDP Care Consultant

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 wellbeing of older people in Wisconsin, join us! Open positions can be found at: https://gwaar.org/jobs

Medicare Outreach Coordinator employment opportunity

The Medicare Outreach Coordinator, in conjunction with the GWAAR benefit specialist supervising attorney team, provides training and technical assistance to Elder Benefits Specialists and the broader community of State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselors. This position supports eligibility benefits counseling and outreach efforts related to Medicare, Medicaid and related health insurance programs. The candidate will work



primarily standard business hours Monday through Friday, with occasional nights, and some statewide travel throughout Wisconsin will be required for conferences or events.

Required Qualifications:

- 1. A Bachelor of Arts or Science degree, preferably in a health or human services related field.
- 2. At least one year of full-time experience in a health or human services field, working with older adults or adults with disabilities.
- 3. Ability to work independently as well as part of a team.
- 4. Strong verbal and written communication, presentation, and advocacy skills.
- 5. Self-starter who can work with limited supervision.
- 6. A valid WI driver license, access to an insured vehicle, and ability to occasionally travel within the state.

Preferred Qualifications:

- 1. Three or more years of experience assisting beneficiaries with questions about Medicare, Medicaid and/or related health insurance programs.
- 2. Experience working as an advocate on behalf of older adults.
- 3. Knowledge of public benefits such as Social Security, FoodShare, Medicare Savings Programs, and the Low-Income Subsidy program.
- 4. Fluency in other languages.

Read the full job description: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008362

To apply, send cover letter and resume to the following:

Richard Lavigne, Legal Services Manager Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources 1414 MacArthur Road, Suite 306 Madison, WI 53714

Email: richard.lavigne@GWAAR.org

2024 Triad of Wisconsin Virtual Conference

The 2024 Triad of Wisconsin Virtual Conference will be held on two mornings, November 8 and 15, with presentations at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The complete list of presentations and speakers is available at https://bit.ly/tcprgm2024

November 8 focus: "Senior Safety in our Digital World"

November 15 focus: "Senior Safety in the Home"

The registration fee is \$10 for the entire conference. You will receive the Zoom link in an email confirming your registration. Attendance certificates can be requested by checking the box on the registration form. Email mthomsen@rsvpdane.org with questions.

Registration: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/5m2stdc **View the flyer:** https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008364



Reminder: 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.

A Commitment to Excellence

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 --ACE Meetings. (https://bit.ly/4eHQ1K1)

Advocacy

Janet Zander, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator

Nice to Know

Disability Vote Coalition - Lunch & Learn Webinar: The Power of the Disability Vote

Thursday, October 24 | 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.

Join the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition for a virtual, nonpartisan Lunch & Learn webinar about the Power of the Disability Vote! This webinar will discuss what's on the November ballot, the Constitutional Amendment question, how to vote, personal voter stories, and more.

Webinar registration: https://bit.ly/PowerOfDisabilityVote
View flyer: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008363



Virtual Town Hall: Scams & Older Adults

Wednesday, October 30 | 1:00 p.m.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), AARP, and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) are



hosting a virtual town hall on scams. Older adults, families, professionals, and other stakeholders are invited to attend. The event will cover topics like how scams are successful, real-life experience of a scam victim, an overview of Money Smart for Older Adults, and how to protect yourself and others from scam attempts.

Virtual Town Hall Registration: https://forms.gle/qXWKTfLuV7hZPL1L6

DHS Seeks Applicants for State Long-Term Care Advisory Councils

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is seeking qualified applicants to fill vacancies on two state long-term care advisory councils. The deadline to apply is Friday, November 1, 2024.

Wisconsin Long-Term Care Advisory Council (WLTCAC)

The WLTCAC serves as an advisory body to DHS on existing and emerging aging, disability, and long-term care systems issues. Members provide advice and make recommendations to the DHS secretary regarding long-term care policy, programs, and services.

Learn more about WLTCAC: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wltcac/index.htm

IRIS Advisory Committee (IAC)

The IAC is a workgroup established to provide recommendations to the DHS program staff on issues related to administration of the IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct) program. IRIS is a self-directed long-term care program for older adults and adults with disabilities. IAC members are individuals who have relevant knowledge, experience, expertise, and community relationships that allow them to present ideas, opinions, or facts for the betterment of the IRIS program. DHS is accepting applications to fill one open seat to represent IRIS participants.

Learn more about the IAC: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/iris/iac.htm

How to apply: If you or someone you know is interested in applying to serve on either of these two councils, applications can be found on the DHS website by clicking on these links:

Application for the WLTCAC (Word): https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wltcac/ltcac-application.docx
Application for the IAC (Word): https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/iris/iac-application.docx

If you would like to request a paper application or need an accommodation or assistance with completing your application, please contact DHS Long-Term Care at 608-267-7286 or DHSDMSLTC@dhs.wisconsin.gov. Please include the name of the council to which you are applying.

Data Management

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.

-continued-

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

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

Reminder: 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/

Reminder: 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

Reminder: Boost Your Brain & Memory Program webinar

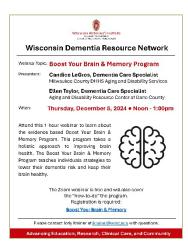
Thursday, December 5 | 12:00 p.m.

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

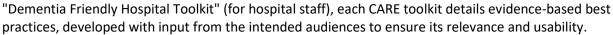




Family Caregiver and Caregiver Coordinator Professional Resource

The Center for Aging Research and Education (CARE) at the UW–Madison School of Nursing has developed numerous toolkits to help families, communities, instructors, and healthcare staff support older adults' health and well-being. https://wisconsincaregiver.org/health

From "Support for Older People" (for family caregivers and group home staff) to "Healthy Aging in Rural Towns" (for community leaders) to



These resources are widely and freely available. Visit the "CARE Products" page of CARE's website, read the descriptions, and use the online form to request the toolkits of interest to you: https://care.nursing.wisc.edu/products/-care-resources

You will also find the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Nursing's Center for Aging Research and Education (CARE) "Agefully" program for caregivers on the WisconsinCaregiver.Org site here https://care.nursing.wisc.edu/products/



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

Need to Know

GWAAR Fiscal Fall Training (in-person)

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 25, 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.)



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

DATE: Friday, November 1st, 2024

TIME: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

LOCATION: The Commons - 2801 Hoover Road Stevens Point, WI 54481

FEE: No cost

LUNCH: Will be provided

Fiscal Fall Registration Form: https://bit.ly/4feGsBX

GWAAR Fiscal Follow-up Webinar

Monday, November 4 | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

This webinar will be a follow-up from the In-Person training on 11/1 for anyone, but especially for those unable to attend to receive highlights and updates from the training.

Fiscal Follow-up Webinar Registration Form: https://bit.ly/3BRzWTn

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

- The September claim was posted last 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 was posted last 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.

2025 Preliminary Budget: Update posted Oct. 7

Due to recently applied changes, an updated 2025 Preliminary Budget was posted on 10/7 on the <u>GWAAR</u> <u>Partner Resources - External SharePoint site</u>. Please make sure you are using the most recent version.

GWAAR Partner Resources - External SharePoint site: https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/sites/PartnerResources

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.

Upcoming

- The Variance Report will be a document separate from the September claim. This document will be forthcoming with additional information and training on how to complete the form deadline for submission by November 29th. This information is required as it is shared with BADR and ACL on the NAPIS Federal Report.
- The Budget to Actual document will also be forthcoming shortly. This document compares your submitted Final Budget for 2024 against the actual expenses reported. We will host a webinar to assist Aging Unit Fiscal staff in reviewing the information and how to address inconsistencies.

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: We have reached the required minimum Cash Match, should we report the additional county/tribal funds used under Other Local?

A: All County or Tribal funds used to supplement expenses for the Title III program must be reported within the Cash Match column per policy. This is then reported to the state and in our federal report to show how much local



county and tribal funding is added to support these programs. Other Local expenses is funding provided to the Aging Unit, such as grants from local county organizations, to support Title III services.

Q: Our annual audit is completed...does GWAAR need a copy of the audit and where do we send it?

A: Yes, GWAAR is required to receive a copy of all annual audits. GWAAR staff will review each audit for findings and if necessary, will follow up with Aging Units to resolve any audit issues. All audits should be sent to GWAAR fiscal department at the email contracts@gwaar.org. It should also be uploaded to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at The Federal Audit Clearinghouse (fac.gov).

Angie Sullivan, Older Americans Act Consultant - Health Promotions Specialist

Nice to Know

Join Us in Raising Awareness of the Importance of Social Connection!

Wisconsin's Social Connection Awareness Week is November 10 -16th. The Wisconsin Coalition for Social Connection has created customizable resources you can use in your community. In addition, the



WCSC will be hosting several free webinars throughout the week where you can learn about state and local efforts to provide meaningful connections for older adults and people with disabilities. Find all this and more on the WCSC's website. Social Connection Awareness Week November 10 - 16.

Learn more: https://connectwi.org/for-professionals/awareness-resources/



Guardianship Support Center

Polly Shoemaker, WI Guardianship Support Center Attorney

Nice to Know

Read "The Guardian" for in-depth news and updates

The October 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/2008355

Visit the Guardian Support Center page:

https://gwaar.org/guardianship-resources



Medicare Outreach and Assistance

Nice to Know

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

GWAAR Medicare Outreach Coordinator, Alyssa Kulpa, shared this MIPPA outreach idea. October's Idea of the Month is "National Council on Aging (NCOA) Outreach Resources." 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 October Idea of the Month: https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008334

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

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

Nice to Know

Theme for 2025 March National Nutrition Month®

National Nutrition Month[®] is an <u>annual campaign</u> established in 1973 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits.

Learn more about National Nutrition Month: https://www.eatright.org/about-national-nutrition-month

This year's theme is "Food Connects Us." What a perfect theme to help promote our Senior Dining Sites!

Food is a connecting factor for many of us. Food connects us to our cultures, our families and our friends. Sharing a meal is an opportunity to learn about its preparation, who made it and where the ingredients were sourced. Health, memories, traditions, seasons and access can all impact our relationship



with food. While these factors influence the foods we eat, the foods we eat also affect our health.

Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) and Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians, Registered (NDTRs) play a critical role in helping people understand the connection between the foods individuals and communities eat, and how these foods impact health throughout life.

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has a list of 50 ways to celebrate the month: https://bit.ly/3NBkUDO

Learn more about next year's theme that will highlight the connection between health, access, traditions and food across all stages of life: sm.eatright.org/NNM Check back to the site often as they will be posting a social media toolkit, videos, and a catalog with promotional items.

Visit the site: https://www.eatright.org/national-nutrition-month

Cupid Crew registration is open!

Regardless of age, we all thrive on connections for our physical and emotional wellbeing. Unfortunately, nearly one in four adults age 65 and older are experiencing isolation. This equates to 50 million Americans who may not have any contact on Valentine's Day. Wish of a Lifetime's Cupid Crew aims to bring connection, love, and joy to older adults. On Valentine's Day 2025 join with volunteers of all ages to spread joy by handing out roses to older adults all across the U.S.



Registration is now open across the United States to be eligible to receive free roses to deliver to older adults on Valentine's Day 2025. Use the link below to request roses. Please note that registration does not guarantee receiving roses.

Registration will close on October 31st and confirmation emails will be sent in November.

Cupid Crew Registration: https://aarpmarketing.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9nwYgJrj135ixYW
Stay updated by following @wishofalifetime on social media.

Check out the fun video from Washburn County in February 2024 for ideas on how you can do something similar in your area!

View the Facebook video: https://www.facebook.com/share/v/bvQRfWvRxUNfg5Gp/