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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

ACE meeting replay and survey available

Thank you to the attendees of the virtual ACE Meeting on January 8! Please take a moment to complete our short ACE Meeting survey that was emailed on Tuesday, January 14. We value your input as it assists us with the planning process.

January 8, 2025 ACE Meeting Survey: <https://gwaar.org/01-08-2025-ace-meeting-survey>

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. 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: You should receive access information within 3-5 business days. **Information about registration:** <https://gwaar.org/gpr-ext>

If you have any questions about the registration process, you may contact Carrie.Kroetz@gwaar.org.

Abuse in Later Life Grant

Need to Know

Direct Services Elder Abuse Training - February 26

Wednesday, February 26 | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (lunch is on your own)

*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.

Registration:

<https://gwaar.org/walworth-elder-abuse-training-22625-registration>

View the flyer:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008429>



Date/Time:
 February 26, 2025 8:00am - 4:30pm
Location:
 Walworth County Health & Human Services Building
 1910 County Road NN, Elkhorn
Register here:
<https://wlsdoj.eventsale.com/direct-services-elder-abuse-training-walworth-county/feb-26>

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



Advocacy

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

Nice to Know

Reminder: Wisconsin Supreme Court Election webinars

Learn more/register:

<https://my.lvw.org/wisconsin/event/wisconsin-supreme-court-election%C2%A0ethics-and-money>

Wisconsin Supreme Court Election: Ethics and Money

Tuesday, January 28 | 6:00 p.m.

This program will provide voters with all the information they need for the next Wisconsin Supreme Court Election this

spring. Speakers include: Jay Heck from Common Cause; former Supreme Court Justice Janine Geske; Attorney Doug Keith from the Brennan Center.



Registration:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlkfuuqrzlvHdx6_fwIV500PYEtp_VN5P6z#/registration

Wisconsin Supreme Court Election: Judging Judicial Candidates

Tuesday, February 25 | 6:00 p.m.

This program will provide voters with information about how citizens can assess candidates' perspectives on and knowledge of the judging process of a Supreme Court justice. Speakers include: Chad Oldfather from Marquette University Law School; Rob Yablon of the State Democracy Research Institute; Attorney Jeff Mandell of Law Forward,; and George Penn of United to Amend.

Registration: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/X3idkeSTQm2phpnhk6gclQ#/registration>

Reminder: Save the date: Alzheimer's Association Wisconsin Advocacy Day

Tuesday, March 4 | 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Best Western Premier Park Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin

You're invited to the Alzheimer's Association Advocacy Day and gather at the Wisconsin State Capitol and show our elected officials how Wisconsinites are impacted by Alzheimer's disease.



You will hear from key state policymakers and take away tools to empower your advocacy efforts on behalf of all who are impacted by Alzheimer's and dementia. In the afternoon, you can meet with your state lawmakers and ask them to support our policies! Lunch is included for all participants.

To register online, please visit: <http://bit.ly/WIAdvocacy2025>

If you have any questions about this year's Advocacy Day or any state policy activities, please contact Vanessa Kent by email at vlkent@alz.org or by phone at 608-318-4057.

Reminder: Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities hosting virtual workshops

Thursday, Jan. 23 | 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This workshop will cover:

- Latest updates on cuts to Federal Medicaid funding;
- How to tell your story with a focus on public policy and to legislators;
- Large group discussions on how to tell your Medicaid story;
- Working with other advocates in small groups to refine your Medicaid story and practice telling it in a low-stakes situation.

More information and registration:

https://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/StoryTellingWebinar_Jan2025.pdf



Data Management

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

Need to Know

PeerPlace Training Resources

Users may now enter data into the PeerPlace system using this address:

<https://peerplace.dhs.wisconsin.gov>.

PeerPlace Training Details:

Site for registered users:

<https://share.health.wisconsin.gov/ltc/teams/ADRC/sitepages/PPTrg.aspx>

PeerPlace Information Page for Aging:

https://share.health.wisconsin.gov/ltc/teams/ADRC/SitePages/PeerPlace_Aging.aspx

This page contains detailed information related to PeerPlace training including live webinar schedules, live webinar registration links, job aids, user group information, and key dates.

Recordings of completed webinars can be found on the [PeerPlace Training Vimeo Showcase](#):

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

GWAAR will be coming out shortly with PeerPlace Aging Office Hours for Q&A, as well as program specific trainings. In 2025, we will be conducting regional PeerPlace trainings.



DHS PeerPlace
Training

Family Caregiver Support

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

Need to Know

January 28 Caregiver Coordinator Statewide meeting

Tuesday, January 28 | 10:00 a.m.

The January Caregiver Coordinator Statewide agenda with call-in and login information can be found here: **View the agenda:**

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008433>



Save the dates: 2025 Caregiver Coordinator Statewide meetings:

Tuesday, March 18 | 11:00 a.m. (3rd Tuesday of the month & different time than usual)

Tuesday, May 27 | 10:00 a.m. (4th Tuesday of the month)

Tuesday, July 15 | 11:00 a.m. (3rd Tuesday of the month & different time than usual)

In-person TBD Tuesday, September 23 | (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.); ideally location is hybrid for virtual option as well (4th Tuesday of the month)

Tuesday, November 25 | 10:00 a.m. (4th Tuesday of the month)

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. (4th Tuesday of the month)

Reminder Trualta caregiver resources now available in Wisconsin

GWAAR and DHS are incredibly excited to announce that the 24/7 online caregiver resource, Trualta is now back and available free of charge for all the Wisconsin caregivers you work with!

Trualta Login/registration:

<https://wisconsincaregiver.trualta.com/login>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007769>

Trualta staff training sessions

You can also find these posted on the GWAAR Partner Resources SharePoint site

As part of this re-launch, we have scheduled two staff trainings. You are not required to attend, but it is highly encouraged that Caregiver Coordinators or the staff responsible for your agency's caregiver grant programs, attend at least one training.

We will also be recording the training so that new staff can view the recording and learn about Trualta as part of their initial onboarding and training.

Trualta training dates

Friday, January 24 | 9:00 – 10 a.m.

Jan. 24 meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84844278137?pwd=OLKplzanB3GCPafYfpaHKCyigNLzyb.1#success>

Wednesday, January 29 | 10:00 -11:00 a.m.

Jan. 29 meeting link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82062669969?pwd=glpShX3sHaoEcaPz9OyZHbWpxl6rtH.1#success>



Nice to Know

Champions in Care Forum replay available

Just in case you missed it!! Here's another chance to watch "Champions in Care Forum: Why Caregiver Input Matters in Defining Value in Healthcare. As the U.S. grapples with defining value in healthcare and medical interventions, there is growing recognition that integrating caregiver experiences and perspectives are vital to understanding a patient's disease or condition journey. Yet, how to identify and collect relevant data from family caregivers to inform medical interventions remains in nascent stages." Link to the webinar: hosted by the National Alliance for Caregiving: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FftbS21xfi8>



Reminder: Life Experience Informing Careers in Dementia Services and Supports: Panel Discussion

Tuesday, January 28 | 1:00 p.m.

National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center will be offering a webinar: Life Experience Informing Careers in Dementia Services and Supports: Panel Discussion.

The overlap of professional and personal lives can be a challenge to navigate, but there are opportunities for each role to inform the other. It is not uncommon for professionals in the dementia field to have personal experiences as caregivers. This personal experience informs their work, providing opportunities to infuse their perspective in the programs and services they develop and deliver. The lessons learned from people who experience both roles are compelling and can help guide dementia work and caregiving practices. This webinar will have a panel discussion about the intersection of careers in supporting people living with dementia and caregivers and the ways their personal experiences as dementia caregivers have informed this work.

More information and webinar registration:

https://rtiorg.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_s9wLTlhFQ0ij9W79PCRsFQ#/registration



Reminder: CARE U Workshops: free training for direct care workers

Need more to increase the caregiver workforce in your area? Please share this opportunity provided to us by the University of Wisconsin - Center for Aging Research & Education.



Center for Aging Research and Education
CARE at the UW-Madison School of Nursing

CARE U provides valuable education for certified nursing assistants (CNAs), personal care workers (PCWs), community health workers (CHWs), and other direct care staff who work with older adults. They know that CNAs and direct care staff want continuing education and use the information to improve the care they provide. That's why our Center for Aging Research and Education (CARE) began offering FREE one-day workshops for direct care staff in 2014.

Learn more: <https://care.nursing.wisc.edu/care-u-for-direct-care-staff/>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008406>

The next CARE U workshop is scheduled for January 28, 2025, from 8:30 to 5:00 at Northwood Technical College in Rice Lake, Wisconsin. This FREE one-day workshop is the first in a series that will be offered throughout Wisconsin over the next five years.

WAIT, there's more! To reach more CNAs and direct care staff across Wisconsin, CARE developed a train-the-trainer program to prepare health educators to offer their own local CARE U workshops.

Learn more about the CARE U Train-the-Trainer:

<https://care.nursing.wisc.edu/care-u-for-direct-care-staff/care-u-train-the-trainer-for-health-educators/>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008407>

Fiscal

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

Need to Know

ARPA Extension contract: now that September claims have been processed, we are able to provide the remaining allocations to the state for GWAAR to receive a new ARPA contract (Oct 2024-Sept 2025). Just as a reminder, this is a new contract not an amended contract extending out the date as before and should be used for expenses from Oct 2024-Dec 2024 for this calendar year, and then Jan 2025-Sept 2025 for expenses in 2025. The allocations will be posted on the Final claim form, until the ARPA funds are available on the claim form Aging Units should report the expenses in Cash Match or using other contract funds on their Oct-Dec claim forms and then adjust as necessary on the Final claim.

NSIP 24-25 contract: GWAAR has received the NSIP contract from the state and will be distributing out Aging Unit contracts shortly. As a reminder, this contract is for the expenses associated with raw food cost only and not the full cost of the meal. The allocations will be posted on the Final claim form, until the NSIP funds are available on the claim form Aging Units should report the expenses in Cash Match or using other contract funds on their Oct-Dec claim forms and then adjust as necessary on the Final claim.

Other updates:

- Report 99 in PeerPlace – currently this custom report has not been created in PeerPlace. This will not prevent you from submitting your October claim. We continue to work with BADR and PeerPlace to have this available and will let you know when it is – along with providing training on how to run the report.
- If completing a Re-Obligation request, by completing this form you are requesting additional contract funding, if available, which must be spent by Dec. 31, 2024, for expenses from Jan.-Dec. 2024. By completing this form, you understand any requests are not guaranteed and must be claimed by the Final Claim form, due March 5, 2025.

Upcoming:

- The Budget to Actual document will also be forthcoming. 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.

Health Promotion

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

Need to Know

Reminder: Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar -- Register Today!

Tuesday, February 4 | 9:00 a.m.

Don't miss the first Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar of the year. You will have an opportunity to learn about the UW-Extension Regional Community Health Team and how they can assist you in reaching your health promotion goals. The last 30 minutes will be dedicated to answering your questions regarding Peer Place and Health Promotion data entry.

View the agenda: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008427>

Please submit your PeerPlace Questions ahead of time: <https://forms.office.com/r/Wqqzw0cHtV>

Webinar registration: <https://gwaar.org/quarterly-health-promotion-webinar-2-4-25-registration>



Nice to Know

Registration is now open for the 2025 Wise Wisconsin Virtual Learning Series!

February 5 - March 12 | Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

UW-Madison Division of Extension's Life Span program presents Wise Wisconsin Virtual Learning Series. Extension Faculty, staff and partners from around the state will host sessions on topics that will help you increase joy and satisfaction in your life, provide you with new skills and resources, and help you connect with others during the cold, snowy winter months. Grab a hot beverage and join us!

Registration is required and includes all sessions. Connection link will be sent the Monday prior to the series and reminders will go out weekly. Recorded sessions will be on YouTube when available.

February

2/5: Renovate Today, Stay Tomorrow: How to Successfully Age in Place, Presented by Leacy Brown, Field Specialist, South Dakota State University

2/12: The Wisconsin Naturalist Program, Presented by Becky Sapper, Program Manager, The Wisconsin Naturalist Program

2/19: Inflation's Impact on Finances, Presented by Jonathon Ferguson, Extension Specialist, UW-Madison Division of Extension

2/26: 8 Dimensions of Wellness, Presented by Katie Jaegly, Health & Wellbeing Educator, UW-Madison Division of Extension Winnebago County

March

3/5: The Art of Caregiving, Presented by Dr. Kristin Litzelman, Extension Specialist, UW-Madison Division of Extension

3/12: Edible Landscaping, Presented by Jacob Kluza, Horticulture Educator, UW-Madison Division of Extension Winnebago County

Registration: https://uwmadison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4NpcEdbXSIN3wuW

YouTube recordings: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWYkTfj_LDJYBR1ImYv2h3IIndQp45gcU

Detailed session information: <https://aging.extension.wisc.edu/programs/wise-wisconsin-program/>

Contact Sara Richie, Life Span Program Manager at sara.richie@wisc.edu with questions about the series.



**WISE
WISCONSIN**
Virtual Learning Series

Join us on Wednesdays at 9am from February 5th - March 12th! This free series will have sessions on the following topics:

- **February 5:** Renovate Today, Stay Tomorrow: How to Successfully Age in Place
- **February 12:** The Master Naturalist Program
- **February 19:** Inflation's Impact on Finances
- **February 26:** 8 Dimensions of Wellness
- **March 5:** The Art of Caregiving
- **March 12:** Edible Landscaping

To register, go to:
<https://go.wisc.edu/8517v>



For archived recordings and program descriptions, go to:
<https://aging.extension.wisc.edu/programs/wise-wisconsin-program/>

Contact Sara Richie,
Life Span Program
Manager, at
sara.richie@wisc.edu
with questions about
the series.



Nutrition

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

Need to Know

Watch for 2025 Nutrition meeting dates to be posted on our SharePoint site soon

Scheduled meetings include:

- Meal Prioritization/Waitlist-"Right Meal & Services for You" Calls (1/24/25- 9 to 10 a.m.)
- Stepping Up Your Nutrition Leader Call (1/30/25- 2 to 3 p.m.).
- Dietitian/Diet Tech's Call (2/25/25- 2 to 3 p.m.)

Reminder: First and second quarter 2025 GWAAR Nutrition Ed Handouts now available!

We have transitioned from the Eat Well, Age Well monthly handout to a new format, Take a NOURISH Step. The handouts are 2 pages long and are available in both Landscape view, for placemats, back of menus, etc. Or in portrait view that may be more newsletter and handout friendly. As always, we welcome your feedback.

To access the newest handouts for 2025, registered users can visit GWAAR Partner Resources | Aging Programs | Nutrition | Nutrition Files | NOURISH Step: <https://bit.ly/4gJ2JJr>

These handouts are also available publicly on the GWAAR website: <https://gwaar.org/nourishstep>



Nice to Know

MyPlate resources, recipes and more

MyPlate is a great resource to share. There's a newsletter that features monthly recipes – also available in Spanish!



This month's featured recipe is **The Perfect "Pear" and Brussels Sprout Salad**

This sweet and savory salad is fresh and light and sure to please! This salad "pears" perfectly as a side dish at your holiday gathering. This dish is kid-tested and mom-approved!

View the recipe:

<https://www.myplate.gov/recipes/perfect-pear-and-brussels-sprout-salad>

Visit the site: <https://www.myplate.gov/>

#Whatsonmyplate: <https://www.myplate.gov/whatsonmyplate>

MyPlate newsletter signup: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDACNPP/subscriber/new>



Transportation

[Nick Musson](#), Older Americans Act Consultant – Transportation

Nice to Know

Reminder: Transportation Equity Toolkit and Webinar

Tuesday, Jan. 28 | 1:00 p.m.

Get a sneak peek at NADTC's newest resource to promote transportation equity at the local level!

The National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) developed a Community Conversation on Transportation Equity Toolkit with useful tools to initiate discussions and move the needle towards more equitable solutions.

This toolkit offers recorded presentations from industry leaders, checklists, templates and guidance to plan and facilitate community meetings that address transportation equity and create a plan to address community driven solutions. A January webinar will review the toolkit and discuss how it works.

Visit [NADTC's Community Conversation on Transportation Equity](#) Toolkit website **for more information and to register for the webinar:**

<https://www.nadtc.org/community-conversation-on-transportation-equity-toolkit/>

Registration: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tPQcWITIQ6e89m3Tp1c3Pw#/registration



Volunteerism

Points of Light 35th anniversary celebration

Points of Light has announced several opportunities to recognize volunteers and help celebrate “35 Years of Inspiring Service” including a webinar on January 29.



- **#35YearsofLight:** Share your volunteer impact stories with Points of Light using their [digital assets](#) and the hashtag #35YearsofLight: <https://www.pointsoflight.org/35th/#resources>
- **Nominate a Daily Point of Light Honoree:** Help us recognize remarkable volunteers by [nominating someone who inspires others through their service](#): <https://www.pointsoflight.org/daily-point-of-light/>
- **Celebrate Global Volunteer Month:** Join the global movement this April by uplifting stories of service, hosting volunteer events, or inspiring acts of kindness in your community. For NGOs, [join our live event on Jan. 29 at 11 a.m.](#) to learn how your organization can make the most out of [Global Volunteer Month](#).
 - **Make a Plan for Global Volunteer Month registration:** https://pointsoflight.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_26S_K2xZRazpdhAAlG1og#/registration
 - **Global Volunteer Month:** <https://www.pointsoflight.org/global-volunteer-month/>



Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

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

Nice to Know

New “Scam Spotlight” now available!

Check our new “Scam Spotlight” on the Wisconsin SMP website. This monthly feature will highlight a new scam impacting Medicare beneficiaries, also highlighting the way that SMP can help. The first spotlight focuses on resolutions that Medicare beneficiaries can make to PREVENT, DETECT, and REPORT Medicare-related fraud and scams.

Visit the website: <https://www.smpwi.org/>

Read the Scam Spotlight:

<https://www.smpwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/01-January-2025-New-Year.pdf>

