

## Grants for Protection of Elders ADVOCACY ALERT

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### **2025-2027 State Budget Action Alert - Grants for Protection of Elders (DOJ)**

**The state legislature's Joint Finance Committee (JFC) is scheduled to take action on the Dept. of Justice (DOJ) budget on Thursday (6/19) afternoon! Now is the time to contact your state Senator or Assembly Representative!**

The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) is recommending an annual increase of \$350,000 in the 2025-2027 state budget for "Grants for Protection of Elders" to support current programs that no longer have federal funding options. In the past, these grants were used to successfully provide training for professionals to help them detect and prevent elder abuse, hold offenders accountable for abuse and exploitation, and support victims of abuse. Without state funding to continue these grants, this work cannot continue. Funding for grants was not included in the Governor's budget and therefore the Legislative Fiscal Bureau has not created a budget paper for this program. **This does NOT mean JFC can't increase the funding without a budget paper.**

**Call to Action: Your voice is needed now! Ask your State Senator & State Assembly Representative to support an annual increase of \$350,000 in the 2025-2027 state budget for "Grants for Protection of Elders."**

See WAAN's [Elder Justice Issue Brief](#) for talking points.

**Don't Delay: Use our Action Alert Campaign link - [Support Grants for Protection of Elders](https://bit.ly/4l4bqzE) to contact your State Senator and Assembly Representative today! <https://bit.ly/4l4bqzE>** *(campaign link as well as suggested wording for other contact methods are also on page 2 of this alert)*

**If your legislator(s) is a member of the [Joint Finance Committee](#) ask him/her to support these priorities when they vote on Thursday. If your legislator(s) is not a member of the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) ask him/her to ask their colleague/budget buddy on the JFC to support this essential funding.** (\*Any paid staff concerned about lobbying restrictions – you may still contact your own representatives, as well as legislators who represent constituents in the area you serve, to discuss these important priorities and how they impact your community and those you serve without violating lobby laws [avoid asking for support or opposition of the specific budget proposals] and of course you may contact your own legislators about anything when you are off duty and only representing yourself.

**If you have questions or concerns about this *Advocacy Alert*, please contact:**

[janet.zander@gwaar.org](mailto:janet.zander@gwaar.org).

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Use our Action Alert Campaign link - [Support Grants for Protection of Elders](https://bit.ly/4l4bqzE) to contact your State Senator and Assembly Representative today! <https://bit.ly/4l4bqzE>

Or, use the suggested wording below when contacting your representative.

Please support an annual increase of \$350,000 in the 2025-2027 state budget for “Grants for Protection of Elders.”

In the past, federal funds were used to provide grants resources to engage criminal justice and community partners in elder abuse programs that successfully trained professionals to help them detect and prevent elder abuse, hold offenders accountable for abuse and exploitation, and support victims of abuse. With the loss of federal funds there is no future funding available to continue or expand many of these efforts.

This modest investment in continuation funding for these important programs will put our state in a better position to address the growing problem of elder abuse and will save taxpayers countless dollars on investigation, health care costs, and resources that could support other victims.

If you have questions or concerns about this **Advocacy Alert**, please contact:

[janet.zander@gwaar.org](mailto:janet.zander@gwaar.org).

### Core member organizations

Aging and Disability Professionals Association of Wisconsin (ADPAW) • Alzheimer’s Association Wisconsin Chapter  
Board on Aging and Long Term Care (BOALTC) • Wisconsin Adult Day Services Association (WADSA)  
Wisconsin Association of Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) • Wisconsin Association of Benefit Specialists (WABS)  
Wisconsin Association of Nutrition Directors (WAND) • Wisconsin Association of Senior Centers (WASC)  
Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance (WFACSA) • Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA)  
Wisconsin Senior Advocates • Wisconsin Senior Corps Association (WISCA) • Wisconsin Tribal Aging Unit Association

### Mission

The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) works with and for all older adults by educating community members and policy makers on priority issues while advocating for meaningful change. Learn more at <https://gwaar.org/waan>.

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