

UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS WORKGROUP

*Caregiver Coordinator Statewide In-Person Meeting
September 23, 2025*



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WHO WE ARE



The Underserved Populations Workgroup:

Dr. Abiola Keller, Marquette University

Bryn Cemen, GWaar

Christine Schultz, TMG

Kayla Steinke, Milwaukee County Department of HHS

Kristine Meyer, La Crosse County ADRC

Kristin Voss,

Leslie Thede, RCAW

Rachel Watkins-Petersen, RCAW

Barb Iwanowicz, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

OUR FOCUS

1.2b Key Tasks and Activities	1.2b Leads	1.2b Indicators	1.2b Outcomes	1.2b Measurement Tools
Increase engagement with Underserved populations	• Rachel Watkins-Petersen • Bryn Ceman • Kayla Steineke	Partner with a minimum of 4 underserved population advocacy entities to create materials, opportunities, and messaging to increase engagement with underserved populations.	At least 4 underserved population advocacy groups will receive 1:1 expert support to develop marketing, messaging, printing, and outreach strategies to boost engagement.	Document meetings and attendees at a minimum of 4 underserved population advocacy entities.

Grant Cycle: September 2024 - August 2026



1

Youth Caregivers

2

Veterans Caregivers

3

African American Caregivers

4

Rural Caregivers

OUR FOUR FOCUS UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS



Do you have ideas for people we should
connect with? Email

rwatkins-petersen@respitecarewi.org

MILWAUKEE COALITION FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN CAREGIVERS

Formation: Formed in 2024 in response to a study conducted by Dr. Abiola Keller and Dr. Colleen Galambos. The study was entitled “Exploring Virtual Interventions and Other Supports for African American Caregivers of Older Adults”.

Mission: Leverage collective action of individuals and agencies to provide individual and community-level support to African American caregivers ensuring they have access to critical and identity affirming supports.

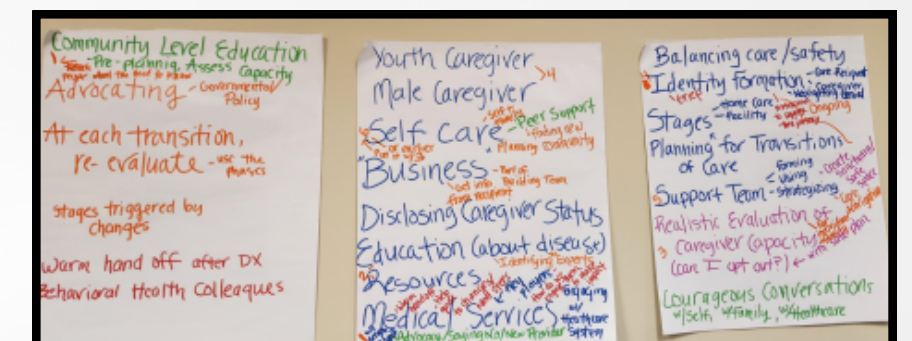


Clinic Pilot Project

Develop a project that could help to "bridge the gap" between health care and social services. Goal to immediately connect caregivers to the precise resources to best meet their needs in their current context and stage of caregiving.

Caregiver Consultation Model

Develop a best practices assessment model to effectively match caregivers to the best resources to meet their needs in their current caregiving stage. Assessment will be attuned to and strengthened by African American caregivers in Milwaukee County. Model intended to be adaptable to other professionals and agencies.



DR. MELINDA KAVANAUGH AND GLOBAL NEURO YCARE **YOUTH CARERS**

Dr. Melina S Kavanagh, PhD, LCSW:

Professor of Social Work at UW–Milwaukee whose translational research focuses on an isolated population of caregivers — children and teens, youth caregivers/young carers.

Global Neuro Ycare: GNYC was established to address a critical and often overlooked need: the lack of resources and support for young caregivers of individuals with neurological conditions.



Resources for Youth Carers

New landing page created on wisconsincaregiver.org that highlights important resources for youth carers.

Toolkit for Professionals

New toolkit will be developed collaboratively with Dr. Kavanagh to guide professionals in outreach and support of youth carers. This will be a Wisconsin resource intended to be replicable for other locations.



Southeastern Wisconsin Caregiving Symposium: Supporting Children, Youth & Young Adults as Caregivers

**Keynote Title: Hidden Caregivers in the U.S: Building
Supports for Children, Youth and Young Adults**

October 13 @ 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

- Learn about the experiences of young caregivers and how to integrate their needs into care and services.
- Hear from experts on caregiving advocacy, laws, and policies, alongside peers in health care, education, and human services.
- Participate in a keynote, panel discussions, table conversations, a YCare training demo, and a screening of Luki & the Lights.
- Gain practical tools and a deeper understanding of caregiver needs to apply in your work.

Keynote Presenter:

Melinda S. Kavanaugh, PhD, LCSW

Professor, Social Work, UW-Milwaukee,

Helen Bader School of Social Welfare



**Southeastern Wisconsin Caregiving Symposium:
Supporting Children, Youth & Young Adults as Caregivers**

Join colleagues across health care and community practice – learning about the experiences of young carers and their families, and how best to integrate them into your practice, care and services. Also, hear from...

 Helen Bader School of Social Welfare / Oct 13

THANK YOU

VISIT US



www.wisconsincaregiver.org

