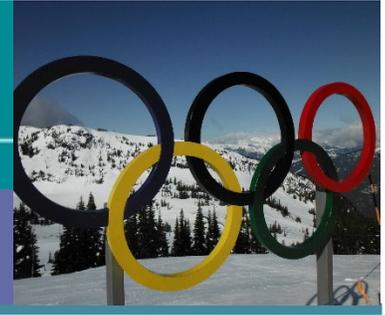




Volume 8, No. 7 February 17, 2026
608-243-5670 | info@gwaar.org | gwaar.org



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Nice to Know

We're hiring: Human Resources and Benefits Liaison: Part-time (20 hours per week)

This position serves as the primary liaison between GWAAR employees and management and external partners, including the Professional Employer Organization (PEO), Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), and retirement plan providers. The role supports benefit administration, employee onboarding and offboarding, and ongoing human resources coordination. This position can be located at a home office or from our Madison office.

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, or equivalent related experience. Experience in human resources or benefits coordination is preferred but not required. The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to work effectively as part of a team while also functioning independently with minimal supervision. Strong written and verbal communication skills, organizational skills, and initiative are required. To apply, send cover letter and resume to info@gwaar.org

View the full job description: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008926>



Reminder: We're Hiring: Veteran Self-Directed Program (VSDP) Care Consultant

View the full job description: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008591>

GWAAR Board of Directors update

Please join us in welcoming Sandy Bergeron, the newest member of the GWAAR Board of Directors!

She has an extensive background in health care and insurance administration and is dedicated to raising awareness about the role of family caregivers. Welcome Sandy!

<https://gwaar.org/meet-our-board>



Reminder: GWAAR Year in Review

In case you missed it. We're pleased to share GWAAR's first-ever "Year in Review." This publication is intended to touch on some of the highlights from 2025 and offer a glimpse at some of the many efforts happening at GWAAR.

Read the GWAAR Year in Review: <https://bit.ly/4teJMVE>



Abuse in Later Life Grant

Nice to Know

Elder abuse training for direct service providers

Wednesday, March 18 | 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Registration:

<https://wisdoj.cventevents.com/event/directservices31826/summary>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008919>

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, and Existing services for older victims. Please share widely with your colleagues, advocates, providers and senior centers.



Date/Time:
March 18, 2026 (8:30am - 5:00pm)
Location:
Dane County Job Center
1801 Abing Avenue, Madison
Website Link:
<https://wisdoj.cventevents.com/event/directservices31826>

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

For more information on this training, please contact Sharon Daniels: 608-231-5033 or by email at sharon.daniels@wisdoj.wisconsin.gov

Walking Each Other Home: Pursuing Respect, Justice, And Wellbeing for Older Victims of Abuse

Tuesday, April 14 | 8:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided by Walworth County.

Walworth County Health & Human Services Building

1910 County Road NN | Elkhorn, WI 53121

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008928>

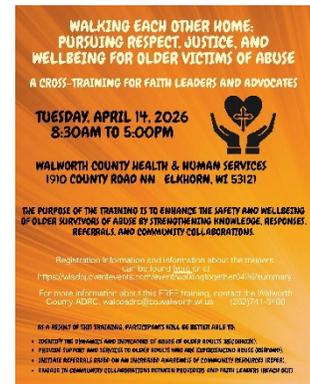
To enhance the safety and wellbeing of older survivors of abuse by strengthening knowledge, responses, referrals, and community collaborations.

Learning Objectives: As a result of this training, participants will be better able to:

- Identify the dynamics and indicators of abuse of older adults (Recognize),
- Provide compassionate support and services to individual older adults who are experiencing abuse (Respond),
- Initiate referrals based on an increased awareness of community resources (Refer), and
- Engage in community collaborations between service providers and faith leaders to better respond to the unique needs of older, faith-involved survivors of abuse (Reach Out).

Target Audience:

- The ideal group should be from the following disciplines:
- Diverse faith leaders, both clergy and lay
- Chaplains (including hospital and hospice chaplain and chaplaincy volunteers at Family Justice Centers with whom sexual and domestic violence advocates are working or hope to work)
- Teams of people representing individual congregations that consist of clergy, office staff, religious education or music program staff, heads of committees and ministries, other interested lay leaders
- Domestic and sexual violence advocates
- Adult Protective Services staff
- Aging Network staff
- Other professionals and interested individuals in the community who work with and/or care for older adults and older victims of abuse



Advocacy

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

Nice to Know

Advocacy Updates

- Action Alert: Don't Let the Assembly Adjourn Without Protecting Scam Victims!
- Action Alert: New Federal Bills Will Make Voting Harder
- Help the Disability Vote Coalition Provide Updated Information on Rides to the Polls
- Memory Care Designation Legislation Update (AB-984/SB-959)

Action Alert: Don't Let the Assembly Adjourn Without Protecting Scam Victims!

The State Legislature's proposed Assembly Calendar for today - Tues., Feb. 17 includes all bills in the Speaker's Task Force on Elder Services' legislative package (focused on programs, services, and policies that help older people maintain independence in their own homes, encourage social interaction and community engagement, prioritize physical well-being and prevent elder financial exploitation) **including the Assembly Bill 968 (2025 Assembly Bill 968) relating to virtual currency (crypto) kiosks**. The Assembly's Financial Institutions Committee recommended passage of this bill last week.

AB-968: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab968>

In 2024, Wisconsin residents reported a total of 53,520 fraud reports, with an aggregate **financial loss of approximately \$106 million**. Fraud victims are disproportionately adults aged 60 and older. As of early 2026, there are over 700 of these kiosks in Wisconsin gas stations, convenience stores, and grocery stores. Unlike traditional ATMs, these machines are used to deposit physical cash and convert it into digital currency. Investigations have shown that for certain kiosk operators, over 90% of transactions are linked to fraudulent activity.

Older Wisconsinites can't wait another year or more for regulations on this industry. Fraudulent crypto-kiosks can wipe out decades of financial security in a single afternoon. Common sense safeguards and consumer protections are needed sooner rather than later. **The Assembly's last session day is Thurs., Feb. 19.**

Please use **AARP's action alert** (link below) to contact your Assembly Representative and urge him/her to pass Assembly Bill 968.

Take Action: Don't Let the Assembly Adjourn Without Protecting Scam Victims! Access AARP Wisconsin's action page: <https://action.aarp.org/secure/dont-let-assembly-adjourn-without-protecting-scam-victims>.

Action Alert: New Federal Bills Will Make Voting Harder

Several proposed federal bills would make voting more difficult for people with disabilities, older adults, and voters who do not have ready access to documents such as a passport or birth certificate—or whose identification documents do not reflect their current legal name.

Congress is expected to vote soon on three measures:

1. **the SAVE Act**, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/22>,
2. **the SAVE America Act**, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7296>,
3. and **the MEGA Act**, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7300>



-continued-

Together, these proposals could create new barriers to voting by:

- Restricting access to voting by mail
- Limiting who may assist voters with disabilities
- Requiring specific documents—such as passports or birth certificates—to register to vote

These changes could disproportionately impact voters who already face barriers to participating in elections.

Take Action Now: Use the American Civil Liberties Union’s (ACLU’s) action alert to send your letter to Wisconsin’s U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson - [Stop Anti-Voter Bills Now | American Civil Liberties Union](https://action.aclu.org/send-message/stop-anti-voter-bills-now): <https://action.aclu.org/send-message/stop-anti-voter-bills-now>

Learn more about the bills by reading [the National Coalition on Accessible Voting’s statement here](https://ncavote.org/resource/nosaveact/): <https://ncavote.org/resource/nosaveact/>.

Help the Disability Vote Coalition Provide Updated Information on Rides to the Polls

[Rides to the Polls](https://disabilityvote.org/2025/rides-to-the-polls/) is a list of transportation providers around the state who may provide transportation for voting for people with disabilities and older adults. It is one of the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition's (DVC's) most-used resources, and they want to make sure they have the most up-to-date information - and we'd like your help with that! [Rides to the Polls](https://disabilityvote.org/2025/rides-to-the-polls/): <https://disabilityvote.org/2025/rides-to-the-polls/>

Are you an organization or transportation company that offers rides for voting-related activities? If yes, make sure they have the most updated information on what you offer by [filling out this short form](https://bit.ly/4aVBz1h): <https://bit.ly/4aVBz1h>

Do you know a transportation provider that offers rides for voting-related activities, or have a network you can share this with? Please share this information with them and ask them to complete the form or share with others.

To learn more, please visit the DVC’s [Rides to the Polls page](https://disabilityvote.org/2025/rides-to-the-polls/), with links to the list of transportation providers who offer rides for voting-related activities. You can also contact the DVC via the Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline at 844-347-8683 or info@disabilityvote.org.

Memory Care Designation Legislation Update (AB-984/SB-959)

Memory Care legislation creating requirements for the use of a “memory care designation” by community-based residential facilities was introduced in the Assembly on Jan. 30, 2026; just in time for advocates participating in the Alzheimer’s Advocacy Day at the State Capitol on Feb. 3 to share why this legislation is so important to the safety and care of individuals living with dementia. AB 984 was referred to the Assembly Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care. Earlier this month, the Senate companion bill (SB 959) for this legislation was introduced by Senator Quinn and referred to the Senate Committee on Health. **The Senate Health Committee held a hearing on the legislation last week and is scheduled to vote on the legislation on 2-17-26.** Stay tuned for upcoming advocacy opportunities.

AB-984: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab984>

SB-959: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB959>

Federal Funding Fallout2025: Updates and Q&A

There will be no update on Feb. 20. The next session will be held Feb. 27 | 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

2/27 English Registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFund227>

2/27 Spanish Registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFundsSpa227>



Emergency Preparedness

[Angie Sullivan](#), Health Promotion Program Specialist

Nice to Know

Reminder: February is National Canned Food Month #WinterReady

You can find NOURISH Step resources on the GWAAR website to help people prepare home emergency kits in case of bad weather or power outages. These can be found on the NOURISH Step page | <https://gwaar.org/nourishstep> | 2025 NOURISH Step Handouts and/or NOURISH Step Recipes and Simple Meal Ideas.

Emergency Food & Water Preparedness Checklist: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008719>

Emergency Preparedness for Food & Water – Sample Meal & Snack Ideas:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008718>

Simple No-Cook Meal Ideas: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008883>

Winters can bring unpredictability, with a potential for big storms that cause power outages, and an increased risk of illness as more people gather together indoors. Winters also bring [unique risks for food safety](#): <https://www.foodsafety.gov/blog/winter-weather-food-safety>

To help mitigate that risk, and keep people safe, you can share these 3 easy food safety tips for winter:

- **The outdoors isn't a reliable fridge** - Even when there's snow and ice, temperatures can vary, potentially causing food to enter the "[danger zone](#)" between 40°F and 140°F. Plus, there's a risk of animals getting into your food. **Danger zone information:** <https://bit.ly/4kau4GT>
- **Wash hands often** - [Wash your hands and surfaces often](#), including before, during, and after preparing food. If soap and clean water aren't available, hand sanitizer may be a good alternative. **Handwashing information:** <https://fightbac.org/handwashing/#Mythbusters>
- **When in doubt, throw it out** - Think your leftovers might be too old? Unsure how long your power went out after a storm? When in doubt, throw it out! If you're trying to avoid waste, you can check the [FoodKeeper App](#) for food storage information. **Learn about FoodKeeper App:** <https://www.foodsafety.gov/keep-food-safe/foodkeeper-app>

Family Caregiver Support

[Bryn Ceman](#), Caregiver Programs Specialist

Need to Know

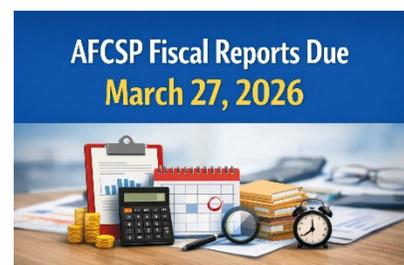
📌 Reminder: AFCSP Fiscal Reports Due March 27, 2026

County and Tribal Aging Offices are reminded that the 2025 Wisconsin Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP) Fiscal Report is due on or before March 27, 2026.

The submission link has been shared directly with Caregiver Coordinators in an email from Lynn Gall; it can also be found on the DHS SharePoint. If you are not the individual responsible for submitting the AFCSP fiscal report, please forward this information to the appropriate staff person in your agency.

🔗 **Submit your fiscal report here:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8681804/2025-AFCSP-Fiscal-Report>

-continued-



Important reminder:

All data must be entered in one sitting; the system does not allow you to save and return later.

It is recommended that you print the fiscal report form first, gather the required information, and then complete the online submission.

Questions may be directed to Lynn Gall, Manager, lynn.gall@wisconsin.gov, Family Caregiver Support and Lifespan Respite Programs, Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources / Office on Aging.

📌 Supporting Caregivers Through Responsible AI

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has launched Phase 1 of the Caregiver AI Prize Competition, a national initiative advancing safe, person-centered uses of artificial intelligence to support family caregivers and the caregiving workforce.

The competition encourages collaboration across technology, caregiving, and aging and disability networks to develop practical tools that reduce caregiver burden and strengthen care at home and in the community. Phase 1 includes up to \$2.5 million in prize funding.

🔗 Learn more: <https://acl.gov/caregiver-ai-competition>



Nice to Know

Upcoming Webinar! How Public Policy Can Drive Intergenerational Solutions to Community Challenges

Thursday, February 26 | 🕒 12:00 p.m. | 🆓 Free

How can public policy support both aging services and child care? 🤝 Join this webinar hosted by Generations United to learn how federal and state policy is advancing intergenerational shared sites and other cross-generational solutions.

🔗 **Register:** https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DFtRZ0zOS_S2pBTJteWcnw#/registration

🌟 Please consider attending and share this opportunity!

Foundations of Young Carer Support: From Awareness to Action

Webinar: Who are Young Carers? Thursday, February 26 | 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Global Neuro YCare (GNYC) is launching a new professional webinar series designed to help providers better understand and support young carers—children and youth who provide care for a family member.

Young carers are present in every community yet often go unrecognized. This introductory session will explore prevalence, roles, strengths, challenges, and how professionals can identify and support young carers effectively.

Ideal for social workers, healthcare providers, educators, school counselors, and youth-serving professionals. 🎓 1 CEH available for Social Workers, LPCs, and MFTs

🔗 **Register:** <https://wisconsin-edu.zoom.us/meeting/register/b7K8JNiCT-CEQ0txUr9rRg#/registration>



Invitation: “We Bring Light” Event – Supporting Families Impacted by Younger-Onset Dementia

Thursday, March 5 | The Edgewater Hotel, Madison

Lorenzo’s House invites Wisconsin caregivers, professionals, and community partners to attend “We Bring Light,” an inspiring annual event focused on families impacted by younger-onset dementia (symptoms of brain change before age 65).

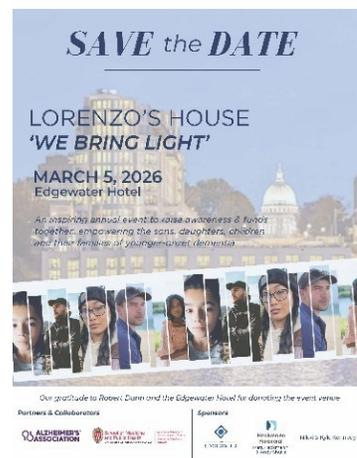
This event offers an opportunity to learn more about Lorenzo’s House’s national and global work, connect with others in the dementia care community, and support families navigating younger-onset dementia.

County and tribal aging staff, ADRC staff, Caregiver Coordinators, and Dementia Care Specialists are encouraged to attend and to invite caregivers they work with. Attendance & respite care for conferences, events, and trainings like this may be an appropriate use of caregiver funding, including:

- National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2007225>
- Alzheimer’s Family Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP) <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005362>
- Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW) Respite Grants <https://respitecarewi.org/grants/>

🔗 Event details: <https://www.lorenzoshouse.org/we-bring-light-madison-event-03-05-26>

📄 Complimentary special guest registration: <https://funraise.org/give/Lorenzo's-House/9d79a279-7f3a-4e3e-af6d-ecaee4525bf9/>



Fiscal Resources and Data Management

[Carrie Kroetz](#), Data Management and Technology Coordinator

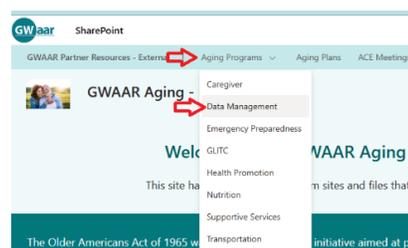
Need to Know

Reminders

All webinars are recorded and posted on the GWAAR Partners Resources site and accessed by registered users.

<https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/sites/PartnerResources> | Aging Programs | [Data Management](#)

<https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/sites/PartnerResources> | [Fiscal Resources](#)



Updated Registration and Intake Forms

The 2026 Client Registration and Intake forms have been updated and posted in the Data Management library.

-continued-

****GWAAR 2025 Final Claim Form****

Allocations have been updated to reflect the remaining transfer funds and final end-of-year allocation adjustments. As GWAAR currently does not have the NSIP and SPAP contracts from the State, those allocations will not be available until 2026. The Final Claim form, and any outstanding claims, are **due March 5**. Reminder that January through December, plus a Final claim, must be submitted – thirteen in total. Agencies must continue to report any funds used to pay for Aging services even if you have fully expended contract dollars or met your Match requirement.

****End of Year Re-obligation requests****

We have posted the 2025 Re-obligation Request Form (link located in Fiscal Resources library). This form is to be completed to submit a Re-obligation request for any of the following contracts held with GWAAR: Title III B, C1, C2, D, E, SSCS, EBS, Elder Abuse and/or AFCSP. **Please complete this by February 20, 2026.**

****2026 Budgets and 2026 Claim Form****

There will be webinars held on Friday, February 20, 2026 to review the upcoming fiscal year changes. The budget and claim form will be posted by Monday, February 23, 2026 in the Fiscal Resources library.

****2026 Webinars and In-Person Trainings****

Fiscal Trainings (webinars)

- **2026 Budget Completion, Waiver application and Transfer requests**
Friday, February 20, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/4bLqIrs>
- **2026 Fiscal Reporting and Claim Form Updates**
Friday, February 20, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/400DCec>

PeerPlace Trainings (webinars) – these trainings will be held by individual programs and focus on the main report/view builder that reviews demographic information, missing assessments information and missing/incorrect program reporting information.

- **IIIB Supportive Services and IID Health Promotion – Served Clients Details - Agency report review**
Thursday, February 26 | 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/4qmdxkz>
- **IIIC Nutrition – Served Clients Details - Agency report review**
Friday, February 27 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/4qqNby4>
- **IIIE NFCSP Caregiver – Caregiver/Care Recipient View review**
Monday, March 2 | 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/4r3IXxh>
- **Tribal PeerPlace General Training**
Thursday, March 5 | 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/4rFaG7u>

Regional Trainings (in-person) – GWAAR Staff is excited to announce the 2026 In-Person Fiscal and Data Regional Trainings! The online registration forms will be available shortly within the Data Management and Fiscal Resource libraries and made available in future newsletters.

-continued-

**Data Training Dates and Locations:
Adventure Awaits – Navigating the Sea of Data**

Location	Address	Meeting Date
Holiday Inn - Hayward	15586 Co Rd B, Hayward, WI 54843	22-Apr
Tomah - Cranberry Country Lodge	319 Wittig Rd, Tomah, WI 54660	12-May
Antigo - NorthStar Lanes	400 Prosser Place Antigo WI 54409	19-May
Beaver Dam - Moraine Park Technical College	700 Gould Street Beaver Dam WI 53916	27-May

**Fiscal Training Dates, Locations and Registrations:
Secrets Revealed – Unlocking the Fiscal Mystery**

Location	Address	Meeting Date
Holiday Inn - Hayward	15586 Co Rd B, Hayward, WI 54843	23-Apr
Tomah - Cranberry Country Lodge	319 Wittig Rd, Tomah, WI 54660	13-May
Antigo - NorthStar Lanes	400 Prosser Place Antigo WI 54409	20-May
Beaver Dam - Moraine Park Technical College	700 Gould Street Beaver Dam WI 53916	28-May

Tribal Fiscal and Data Focus Topics Training – SAVE the DATE! Thursday, May 21, 2026 – please contact GLITC for more information.

Health Promotion

[Angie Sullivan](#), Health Promotion Program Specialist

Need to Know

Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar replay now available!

In case you missed it, the February 10 Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar recording is now available. Learn about the Health Promotion Advisory Group, Aging Network Health Promotion Data Summary, Eat Smart, Move More, Prevent Diabetes overview, and Healthy Living with Diabetes overview. Plus updates from GWAAR and WIHA.



Watch the replay: <https://youtu.be/UvL8V8kOUKl>

Nice to Know

Pisando Fuerte - 2026 NO COST Training Opportunities

The Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) was recently awarded funding from the Wisconsin Partnership Program to expand the high-level evidence-based program, Pisando Fuerte. Pisando Fuerte is an 8 week, falls prevention workshop. WIHA will be onboarding a Bilingual Falls Prevention Program Coordinator who will recruit, train and provide support to facilitators across Wisconsin.



WIHA is seeking facilitators to be trained in the Pisando Fuerte program. Over the next two years, Wisconsin Facilitators will be eligible to attend training at NO COST. In addition, Wisconsin facilitators will be eligible to receive up to \$700 per workshop offered (up to 3).

Learn more about becoming a Pisando Fuerte Facilitator:

<https://wihealthyaging.org/2026/02/05/seeking-pisando-fuerte-facilitators/>

Learn more about the Pisando Fuerte Program:

<https://wihealthyaging.org/programs/falls-prevention-programs/pisando-fuerte/2/>

Medicare Outreach and Assistance

[Stephanie Haas](#), Medicare Outreach Coordinator

Nice to Know

Medicare Outreach Training

"Reaching Medicare Beneficiaries When Winter Keeps Them Home"

Thursday, February 26 | 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. via [Zoom](#)

Meeting link: <https://bit.ly/4rsr8b5>

Wisconsin Winters can present challenges for Medicare outreach efforts. Join us for a training focused on conducting effective Medicare outreach during the winter months, especially for individuals who are less likely to leave their homes. This training is geared towards WI SHIP Counselors.

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008904>



Medicare Mingle 2026 dates announced

Are you a SHIP counselor in search of support, advice, or a chance to connect with other counselors? Discover Medicare Mingle, a gathering designed to encourage collaboration, share experiences, and boost your Medicare outreach initiatives. Medicare Mingle is set in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere and offers the ideal opportunity to learn and share your knowledge.

Medicare Mingle is a casual and informative meeting aimed at supporting Wisconsin SHIP counselors in their role of guiding individuals through the Medicare process. Medicare Mingle provides a chance for SHIP Counselors to:

- Discuss different topics
- Offer support to other counselors
- Ask advice on challenging cases
- Explore outreach strategies

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008905>

Join via Zoom: <https://bit.ly/4qXtAgn>



Nutrition

[Kristi Cooley](#), Nutrition Program Specialist
[Jean Lynch](#), Program Specialist Manager
[Pam VanKampen](#), Nutrition Program & Senior Center Specialist

Nice to Know

Spring/Summer 6-Week Menu Cycle

Looking for something fresh to support your menu planning this year? We're thrilled to share a Spring/Summer 6 Week Menu Cycle is ready for you to use! We have put a lot of care and collaboration into building this resource, and we're excited for local programs to take full advantage of it!

Whether you use the whole cycle, select your favorite weeks, or borrow pieces as inspiration for your own menus. Along with the menu cycle, the Meal Pattern Menu Approval Document and the full Nutrient & Packing Details are also available here for registered SharePoint users: [6 Week Menu Cycl Feb 2026: https://bit.ly/4qS5XyE](https://bit.ly/4qS5XyE)

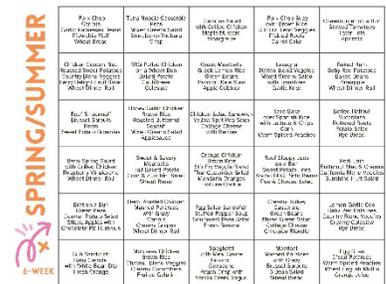
Use It Your Way!

Whether you are a cooking kitchen or working with a caterer, or somewhere in-between this menu cycle is built to support you. All recipes are available in the Trustwell Database ([PDF access directions: https://bit.ly/4rV921w](https://bit.ly/4rV921w)) so you can scale them up or down to fit your needs. Don't want the full cycle? No problem, treat it as a menu framework to spark ideas, streamline planning, or help shape your own seasonal offerings.

View the menu: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008929>

Nutrition Directors: Please share this with your Program Nutritionist, caterers, and those on your team who develop or write the menus. If you have questions, need help navigating the Trustwell database, or want support modifying the cycle, reach out to Kristi Cooley at Kristi.Cooley@gwaar.org.

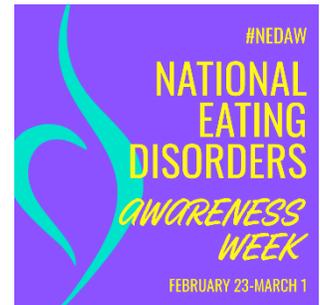
We're excited to see how you use these tools and we love hearing about your successes, tweaks, and creative adaptations!



A grid of 6 columns and 6 rows representing a 6-week menu cycle. Each cell contains a small thumbnail image of a meal. To the left of the grid is a vertical red banner with the text 'SPRING/SUMMER 6-WEEK' in white and yellow.

Eating Disorder Awareness Week February 23–March 1, 2026

We recognize *National Eating Disorder Awareness Week* (February 23–March 1, 2026) and the importance of raising awareness among older adults. While eating disorders are often associated with younger populations, research shows that approximately 13% of women over age 50 experience eating disorder symptoms, and millions of adults age 60+ struggle with disordered eating, malnutrition, or unhealthy relationships with food. These issues often go unrecognized in older adults and can significantly impact physical health, mental well-being, and quality of life.



National Eating Disorder Association resources:

National Eating Disorders Awareness Week:
<https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/nedaw/>

Eating Disorder Screening Tool - NEDA:
<https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/screening-tool/>

Reminder: Get Ready to Celebrate the Senior Nutrition Program This March

Every March, ACL celebrates its Senior Nutrition Program and the vital services it has provided to millions of older Americans since 1972. The anniversary is a chance to promote the program's purpose and impact, engage with partners, and recognize the achievements of the aging services network.

The 2026 theme, *Serving Up Solutions*, emphasizes the creativity, innovation, and collaboration that define the Senior Nutrition Program. It spotlights how local programs continue to adapt and respond to community needs — from providing nutritious meals to offering opportunities for older adults to stay engaged and independent. With every meal, programs are serving up solutions that support health, well-being, and stronger communities.

Visit their webpage to find activity ideas and event tips, sample materials, and graphics to help you mark the occasion and raise awareness of your local nutrition program. Stay tuned for more information about a March celebration event, and don't forget to use the hashtag #SeniorNutritionProgram to share your plans on social media.

Learn more and download materials: <https://acl.gov/snp/celebrate>



Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

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

Nice to Know

February Scam Spotlight

The February Scam Spotlight focuses on Genetic Testing Scams and highlights some things that beneficiaries should be aware of related to genetic testing.

Read the February Scam Spotlight:

<https://www.smpwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/02-February-Genetic-Testing-1.pdf>

Wisconsin SMP
SCAM SPOTLIGHT

GENETIC TESTING SCAMS

Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) is seeing genetic testing fraud and scams. Beneficiaries report that they are receiving calls from their medical providers with offers of genetic testing that is covered by Medicare. These callers are not their medical providers. Scammers are spoofing phone numbers and using phony information in order to scam Medicare beneficiaries. These scammers are stealing people's medical identity and falsely billing Medicare, draining the system of needed funds. Tests ordered under these circumstances are medically unnecessary and could lead to confusion about someone's health condition.

SMP recommends that beneficiaries should:

- Refuse to give out their personal information or accept screening services, including a cheek swab, from someone at a community event, a local fair, a farmer's market, a parking lot, and/or any other large event.
- Go to their own doctor to assess their condition, not a doctor on the phone they've never met, from a company they don't know.
- Always read their Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or Explanation of Benefits (EOB). The words "gene analysis" or "molecular pathology" as service codes may indicate questionable genetic testing.
- Refuse the delivery of any genetic testing kit that was not ordered by their physician.
- Be suspicious of anyone who offers free genetic testing and then requests their Medicare number. If their personal information is compromised, it may be used in other fraud schemes.

Report any suspected fraud or suspicious activity to the Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol. Call 888-818-2611 to report fraudulent activity.
For more information, visit www.smpwi.org.

SMP
Senior Medicare Patrol

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