



Volume 8, No. 7 February 24, 2026
608-243-5670 | info@gwaar.org | gwaar.org



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Nice to Know

Reminder: 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://bit.ly/46mcKck>



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

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

Abuse in Later Life Grant

Nice to Know

Reminder: 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.



Wisconsin Department of Justice
Direct Services Elder Abuse Training

Event Info:
 March 18, 2026 (8:30am - 5:00pm)
 Location:
 State County Job Center
 1800 Abing-Dunwoody, Madison
<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

Any questions on this training, please contact: Dawn Gendel | 608-243-5670 or by email at Dawn.Gendel@gwaar.org

Reminder: 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.

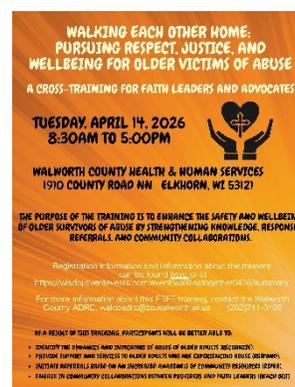
Lunch will be provided by Walworth County.

Walworth County Health & Human Services Building
1910 County Road NN | Elkhorn, WI 53121

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4tUijZu>

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.



Advocacy

Janet Zander, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator

Nice to Know

Advocacy Updates

- Patient Representative (Next-of-Kin) Legislation: Senate Action Alert (AB 598/SB 578)
- Speaker's Task Force on Elder Services: Senate Action Alert
- Funding Request for FoodShare: Senate Action Alert
- Caregiver Designation Legislation Update (AB 798/SB 795)
- Memory Care Designation Legislation: Update
- Volunteer Driver Insurance Protections Update
- Save the Date Reminder: WAAN 2026 Aging Advocacy Day of Action

Patient Representative (Next-of-Kin) Legislation: Senate Action Alert ([AB 598/SB 578](#))

Contacts with your State Senator regarding SB 578 – Patient Representatives (Next-of-Kin) legislation are needed!

AB 598 passed in the full Assembly last Friday by a vote of 77-18. **Three Assembly substitute amendments (ASA) were offered on the bill last week.** Patient advocates had not even seen Assembly Substitute Amendment 3 prior to its adoption (ASA3 - <https://bit.ly/4rDAAdOO>) Note, a substitute amendment on a bill (if approved) replaces the entirety of the bill with another bill.

This legislation allows for the designation of a decision-maker based on a hierarchical list set in statute, if a patient does not have a Power of Attorney for Health care (or Guardian of the Person) and becomes unable to make medical decisions. These new decision-makers are referred to as patient representatives. The bill passed in the Assembly (ASA3-AB 598) also includes hospital price transparency language.

This legislation would benefit from bringing together all stakeholders, including patient advocates, to ensure any new decision-making process addresses hospital discharge concerns without doing any harm to medically incapacitated persons. **The amendments reviewed to date do not address the core issues of concern to patient advocates, and recent changes raise additional questions for advocates.** See the [press release](#) issued by Survival Coalition and the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network - <https://bit.ly/4aQCXRR>.

Action Alert: There is still time to prevent this legislation from becoming law. State Senators may be voting on this bill within the next few weeks!

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Take Action: Contact your State Senator to share with them how Senate Bill 578 could impact you, others you care about, and/or people in your community. To find out who your state Senator is, enter your home address in the “Who Are My Legislators?” box found on this page - <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>.

Speaker’s Task Force on Elder Services: Senate Action Alert

The Assembly Speaker’s Task Force on Elder Services, created last September to identify ways to improve the quality of life for older Wisconsinites, released their final report in January - <https://bit.ly/4qDyZCz>.

Last week, public hearings were held on SB 976/SB 996 (grants for falls prevention awareness) **and SB 977/SB 997** (grants for economic support specialists) **and the full Assembly passed all the Assembly bills** (highlighted in yellow below) **in the Elder Services Task Force package. We now have until mid-March to get this legislative package passed in the Senate.**

The Senate Committee on Utilities, Technology and Tourism (<https://bit.ly/4OuloSA>) **has a public hearing** (<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1975774>) **scheduled this week on Senate Bill 975 (the crypto kiosk bill).** This legislation struck a chord with many of you who have personally been affected by fraudulent crypto currency activity or know someone else who has been negatively impacted. **If you have not yet contacted your state Senator, please do so now. State Senators need to hear how their constituents have been affected by crypto kiosk fraud.**

- **Crypto Kiosks** - Virtual currency kiosks. [SB-975](#) (James, Jesse) *Referred to Senate Committee on Utilities, Technology & Tourism*/[AB-968](#) (Snyder, Patrick) *Referred to Assembly Committee on Financial Institutions*
[SB-975](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB975>
[AB-968](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab968>
- **Drug Repository Program** - The drug repository program. [SB-987](#) (Cabral-Guevara, Rachael) *Referred to Senate Committee on Health* /[AB-969](#) (Snyder, Patrick) *Referred to Assembly Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care*
[SB-987](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB987>
[AB-969](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab969>
- **Grants for Fall Prevention Awareness** - Grants for community emergency medical services, grants for falls prevention awareness and initiatives, and making an appropriation. [SB-976](#) (James, Jesse) *Referred to Senate Committee on Transportation & Local Government*/[AB-970](#) (Snyder, Patrick) *Referred to Assembly Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care.* **Funding for this legislation** has been separated from the initial bill and is now [AB 1001](#): /SB 996
[SB-976](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB976>
[AB-970](#) <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab970>
[AB 1001](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab1001>
- **Community EMTS** - Tuition and materials reimbursement for community paramedics and community emergency medical services practitioners. [SB-974](#) (James, Jesse) *Referred to Senate Committee on Transportation & Local Government*/[AB-971](#) (Snyder, Patrick) *Referred to Assembly Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care*
[SB-974](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB974>
[AB-971](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab971>
- **Financial Exploitation** – Financial exploitation of vulnerable adults - [SB-970](#) (Quinn, Romaine) *Referred to Senate Committee on Financial Institutions & Sporting Heritage*/[AB-972](#): (Snyder, Patrick) *Referred to Assembly Committee on Financial Institutions*
[SB-970](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB970>
[AB-972](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab972>

- **Economic Support Specialists** - Grants for economic support specialists and making an appropriation. [SB-977](#) (James, Jesse) Referred to Senate Committee on Transportation & Local Government/[AB-973](#) (Novak, Todd) Referred to Assembly Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care. **Funding for this legislation** has been separated from the initial bill and is now [AB-1002](#): /[SB 997](#).
[SB-977](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/session/2025/REG/SB977>
[AB-973](#) <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab973>
[AB-1002](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab1002>
[SB 997](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/sb997>

Take Action: Contact your State Senator this week to share with them how bills in the Elder Services Task Force package would impact you, others you care about, and/or people in your community. To find out who your state Senator is, enter your home address in the “Who Are My Legislators?” box found on this page - <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>.

Funding Request for FoodShare: Senate Action Alert

In the Assembly’s last session day on Fri., Feb. 20, [Assembly Bill 180](#): legislation requiring the Department of Health Services to seek any necessary waiver to prohibit the purchase of candy or soft drinks with FoodShare benefits **was amended and passed on a bipartisan vote** (72-22). The amendment included adding funding needed to meet additional state administrative cost share expenses for FoodShare, additional funding for the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program, and funding for more than 40 new quality control project positions. **The next step in getting the needed state funding for the program is to get this same legislation passed by the full Senate by mid-March.**
[Assembly Bill 180](#): <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab180>



The [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP), known in Wisconsin as [FoodShare](#), is jointly run by federal, state, and local governments with the goal of stopping hunger across the country. In Wisconsin, the Department of Health Services (DHS) administers this program in partnership with county governments. SNAP provides nearly 700,000 Wisconsinites, including older people, people living with disabilities, children, and families, with basic food necessities.

A new federal law passed last summer made several significant changes to SNAP, including reducing the federal governments share of the administrative cost share for the program; expanding work requirements to include adults through age 64 (previously work requirements applied to adults ages 54 and under who didn’t have a child under age 18 living in their home); and for the first time in SNAP’s 80-year history, requiring states who are unable to achieve and maintain an error rate below 6% to cover 5-15% of SNAP benefit costs (this requirement could cost Wisconsin taxpayers up to \$205.5 million in penalty fees every year).

State and county budgets are insufficient to cover the increased costs and reduction in federal funding. The Wis. Department of Health Services (DHS) asked the Legislature for \$69.2 million in state funding to help Wisconsin comply with new federal requirements.

Aging advocates, as well as and many other advocates, **feel Assembly 180, as amended, is a “mixed bag”**. Imposing extra restrictions on what FoodShare benefits can be used to purchase is worrying, as it may harm low-income older Wisconsinites. Maintaining the freedom to choose what we eat allows individuals to navigate the medical, cultural, and financial realities that define their health and daily lives. That said, **delays in providing this funding will put all Wisconsin taxpayers at risk of paying for increased costs (due to higher error rates) and will negatively impact communities, businesses, and FoodShare recipients across Wisconsin.**

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Take Action: If your State Assembly Representative supported the additional FoodShare funding, contact them and thank them (To see how your Representative voted, go here: <https://bit.ly/3OwXFyC>). **Then contact your State Senator to share with them how important the FoodShare program is for low-income older people and family caregivers and ask them to support the funding needed to ensure that Wisconsinites continue to have access to food assistance. Let them know how continued FoodShare funding, as well as benefit restrictions, would impact you, others you care about, and/or people in your community.** To find out who your Assembly Representative and Senator are enter your home address in the “Who Are My Legislators?” box found on this page - <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>.

Caregiver Designation Legislation Update ([AB 798](#) /[SB 795](#))

In late December 2025, the Caregiver Designation legislation (AB 798/SB 795) was formally introduced. In the 2023-2025 legislative session, Wisconsin created a process that offers people the option to have emergency contact information included in their electronic record when applying for or renewing their driver’s license, learner’s permit, or state identification ([Wisconsin Department of Transportation Emergency contact: https://bit.ly/3O44yqG](#)). The Caregiver Designation legislation builds upon the emergency contact information process by also providing for an option for people to designate themselves as the primary caregiver for up to three people in their electronic record. This common-sense legislation linking care-recipient contact information to a driver's license or state ID helps to prevent crisis situations where a person with complex needs might go for hours or even days without care.

In early February, this legislation was passed by the Senate Committee on Transportation and Local Government and the Assembly Transportation Committee. **Last week, the full Senate passed this legislation. Unfortunately, the Assembly Transportation Committee did not meet to vote on this legislation, and the full Assembly held its last floor period this week without taking up this important legislation. This legislation is unlikely to be signed into laws this session.** Advocacy must continue to get this legislation introduced and passed early in the next legislative session that begins in 2027.

Memory Care Designation Legislation: Update

Memory Care legislation ([AB-984/SB-959](#)) creating requirements for the use of a “memory care designation” by community-based residential facilities was introduced in late Jan.; just in time for advocates participating in the Alzheimer’s Advocacy Day in early Feb. to share why this legislation is so important to the safety and care of individuals living with dementia. The Senate Health Committee held a **public hearing earlier this month and last week unanimously recommended passage of the bill. Unfortunately, the Assembly bill did not advance quickly enough in committee to make the Assembly’s last floor period held last week. This legislation is unlikely to be signed into law this session.** Advocacy for this critically needed legislation must continue so this bill can be signed into law next session.

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

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

Volunteer Driver Insurance Protections Update

GWAAR has been collaborating with legislators to create legislation to protect volunteer drivers from denial of insurance coverage or higher insurance premiums, solely because they are volunteer drivers. Sen. James, who serves Senate Dist. 23, drafted legislation to protect volunteer drivers. This legislation, though drafted, remains unintroduced.

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Last fall, the State Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OCI) distributed a survey to state insurance agencies. The survey was intended to obtain information regarding which agencies provided coverage of volunteer drivers without further evaluating the drivers for a business use policy (which costs more).

In Jan. 2026, OCI included the survey results in an updated Volunteer Driver Fact Sheet (<https://oci.wi.gov/Documents/Consumers/PI-236.pdf>). The fact sheet includes a list of 141 insurance companies that provide coverage to volunteer drivers; unfortunately, the list does not identify which of the 27% of companies (or 38 companies) may impose a surcharge on volunteer drivers. Without the additional information, we do not believe this list will help volunteer driver programs to educate their drivers on where they could obtain insurance coverage without their premiums significantly raising or help the drivers to find insurance if their current policy is dropped due to their service as a volunteer driver.

OCI informed GWAAR that they will not be further categorizing or sorting the list. More recently, Sen. James indicated he understands the frustration and confusion for volunteer drivers and programs; however, given the list of over 100 companies that will not charge a surcharge, he does not feel it would be responsible public policy to seek to solve this problem with a blanket mandate on the auto insurance industry. He further suggested that it might be helpful for GWAAR (or others) to compile their own list of companies that don't hinder volunteer drivers. GWAAR's plan was to consider doing just that.

On Jan. 20, 2026, GWAAR submitted a public records request to the Wisconsin OCI seeking the results of OCI's 2025 insurer survey. On Feb. 18, GWAAR received OCI's response which included a written statement regarding OCI's partial denial of our request (based upon cited state statutes and prior court cases). OCI shared the questions they included in their survey of insurance agencies and a list of 141 companies offering coverage in Wisconsin for volunteer drivers. Importantly, they did not identify which of those companies would not impose a surcharge on volunteer drivers. GWAAR is currently evaluating what steps should be taken next, as the need to provide protection for volunteer drivers from denial of insurance coverage or higher insurance premiums remains a very real concern for volunteer drivers, volunteer driver programs, and the many Wisconsinites who depend on volunteer drivers.

Save the Date Reminder: WAAN 2026 Aging Advocacy Day of Action

Mark your calendars, on **Wed., May 6, 2026**, the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) will host a "Day of Action" including a virtual training followed by an online campaign. We will use this day to celebrate Older Americans Month and lift priority aging network issues for the next budget and legislative session. Our day of action will be complemented by local, in-district meetings held by WAAN core members throughout the state. **Local sponsors are encouraged to schedule the in-district meetings between late March and the end of October 2026.** Stay tuned for more information.



Disability Advocacy Day is in-person this year!

Thursday, March 19 | Madison

Join other advocates from around the state and meet with your elected officials. This is a great opportunity to share your story and educate your legislators on disability rights! Registration is free, but required to attend. **Registration deadline is March 2:** <https://bit.ly/4tKgb6C>



Federal Funding Fallout2025: Updates and Q&A

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

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



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.

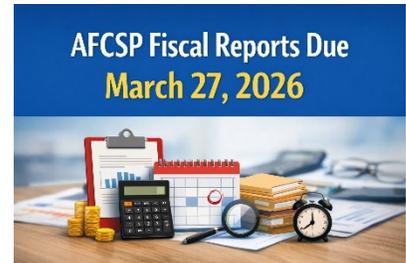
🔗 **Submit your fiscal report here:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8681804/2025-AFCSP-Fiscal-Report>

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.



Reminder: 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

🤖 Curious about AI but not sure where to start?

UW–Madison Extension is offering Understanding AI: A Forum for Local & Tribal Governments — a hands-on, practical learning opportunity designed specifically for public-sector leaders and staff.

These forums go beyond the basics with AI 101 & AI 201, helping participants explore real-world, responsible uses of generative AI in local and Tribal government work.

- 📍 Four in-person forums across Wisconsin:

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- Wisconsin Dells — March 5, 2026
- Oshkosh — March 17, 2026
- Eau Claire — March 18, 2026
- Lac du Flambeau — March 26, 2026

Cost: \$50 (includes lunch & refreshments)

Designed for local, county, and Tribal government leaders and employees.

🔗 Learn more & register: <https://extension.wisc.edu/aiforums/>

♿ Accessibility accommodations are available at no cost (interpreters, alternative formats, and more). Requests should be made at least 25 days in advance.

✉ Questions? Contact: aiinfo@extension.wisc.edu

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

Thursday, February 26 | 12:00 p.m.

👨👩 What if one policy solution could strengthen BOTH child care and aging care?

Join Generations United on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. for a timely webinar exploring how public policy can support intergenerational shared sites—including co-located child care and aging services.

Hear from advocates and program leaders across the country about how federal and state policy is being used to address workforce shortages, strengthen communities, and foster meaningful connections across generations.

🔗 **Register:** <https://bit.ly/4aCbhBa>

💡 Please consider attending and share this opportunity!



Reminder: Who Are Young Carers? A professional's primer to children and youth as caregivers - webinar

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://bit.ly/4kR7dAF>



Reminder: “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.

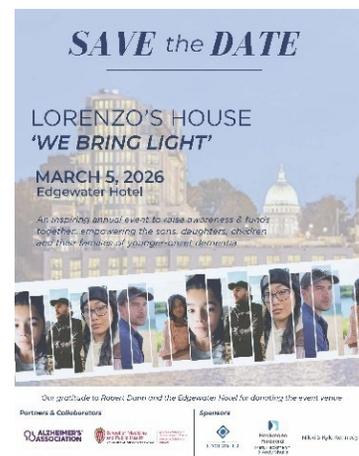
County and tribal aging staff, ADRC staff, Caregiver Coordinators, and Dementia Care Specialists are encouraged to attend and to invite caregivers they work with. Attendance & respite care for conferences, events, and trainings like this may be an appropriate use of caregiver funding, including:

- 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

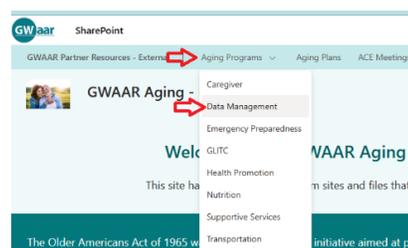
Need to Know

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](#)



GWAAR 2025 Final Claim Form

The Final Claim form, and any outstanding claims, are **due March 5**. Reminder that January through December, plus a Final claim, must be submitted – 13 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.

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

We have posted the 2025 Re-obligation Request Form (link located in Fiscal Resources library: <https://bit.ly/4sdH1CO>). 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 **March 4, 2026** (*extended from Feb. 20*)

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

The 2026 budget and claim form have been posted in the Fiscal Resources library: <https://bit.ly/4sdH1CO>. The January Claim form is due March 5th and the 2026 Budget, along with the online transfer and waiver requests, are due March 31, 2026. The fiscal webinar recordings and training materials held on February 20 have been posted.

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

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 IIID 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 will be hosting four (4) Fiscal and PeerPlace Aging regional training sessions. Each session will be held from 9AM to 4PM. Non-refundable cost to attend is \$25 per person, with morning snack, lunch and beverages included. Please complete the following registration indicating which session you will be attending. Attendance is limited to 40 participants per location. Each participant must register separately. Registrations are due 14 days prior to the session. *Virtual attendance and recording will not be available.* (This training will not cover EBS, DCS or ADRC specific information.) **A confirmation email will be sent to you within 10 business days, along with an invoice for payment.** Payment will be required for no-shows or cancellations within 14 days of the training date.

Data Training Dates and Locations:

Adventure Awaits – Navigating the Sea of Data - Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/14GH1zPXHM>

If you would like to assist with topics for our data training, please complete this [form](https://forms.office.com/r/4TniLx5qvw):

<https://forms.office.com/r/4TniLx5qvw>

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Meeting Date	Location	Address
Wednesday, April 22, 2026	Holiday Inn - Hayward	15586 Co Rd B, Hayward, WI 54843
Tuesday, May 12, 2026	Tomah - Cranberry Country Lodge	319 Wittig Rd, Tomah, WI 54660
Tuesday, May 19, 2026	Antigo - NorthStar Lanes	400 Prosser Place, Antigo, WI 54409
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Beaver Dam - Moraine Park Technical College	700 Gould Street, Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Fiscal Training Dates, Locations and Registrations:

Secrets Revealed – Unlocking the Fiscal Mystery - Registration: <https://forms.office.com/r/24xZ0hNB7S>

If you would like to assist with topics for our fiscal training, please complete this [form](https://forms.office.com/r/B7VedNMCSs):

<https://forms.office.com/r/B7VedNMCSs>

Meeting Date	Location	Address
Thursday, April 23, 2026	Holiday Inn - Hayward	15586 Co Rd B, Hayward, WI 54843
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Tomah - Cranberry Country Lodge	319 Wittig Rd, Tomah, WI 54660
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	Antigo - NorthStar Lanes	400 Prosser Place, Antigo, WI 54409
Thursday, May 28, 2026	Beaver Dam - Moraine Park Technical College	700 Gould Street, Beaver Dam, WI 53916

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

Save the Date: 2nd Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar

Tuesday, May 12 | 9:00-10:30 a.m. (Optional 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. networking)

Meeting link: <https://bit.ly/46UY444>

Mark Your Calendars!

The next Quarterly Health Promotion will be taking place virtually on Tuesday, May 12 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. (Optional 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Networking Opportunity)

Agenda will be released a few weeks prior. If you have any questions or would like to recommend an agenda item, please contact Angie Sullivan at angela.sullivan@gwaar.org or 608-228-8081.



Reminder: 1st 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/UvL8V8kOUK>



Nice to Know

Reminder: 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://bit.ly/4kTLK9X>

Learn more about the Pisando Fuerte Program: <https://bit.ly/4u18fOH>

Nutrition

[Kristi Cooley](#), Nutrition Program Specialist

[Jean Lynch](#), Program Specialist Manager

[Pam VanKampen](#), Nutrition Program & Senior Center Specialist

Nice to Know

Discover the Power of Nutrition – March 18!

March is right around the corner and we are excited to remind you about the “Discover the Power of Nutrition” event program. If your program is hosting this event, now is the perfect time to get the word out to those you serve! If you have not decided to yet, you still have time to get organized and host a local event. Check out the resources available to help you spread the news:

- Editable Canva Event Flier
- Agency Toolkit and Checklist



These materials make it easy to share the event with your participants, staff, and community partners. Let’s work together to make this statewide celebration of nutrition a success!

Items are available in the External SharePoint site March 2026 Discover the Power of Nutrition Event: <https://bit.ly/4qQ8r0p>. Questions? Reach out to Kristi.Cooley@gwaar.org

Reminder: 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: <https://bit.ly/4qS5XyE>

-continued-

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>) 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>

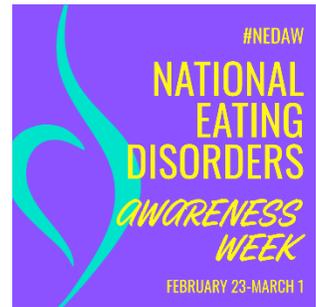
Nutrition Directors: Please share this with your Program Nutritionist, caterers, and those on your team who develops or writes the menus. If you have questions, need help navigating the Trustwell database, or want support modifying the cycle, reach out to Kristi Cooley at Kristi.Cooley@gwaar.org.

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

Pop-O-rama Candy Apples Fruit & Yogurt Yogurt Dip	Tuna Noodle Casserole Baked Macaroni Baked Macaroni Casserole	Low Carb Mediterranean Salad with Cucumber Dressing	Pop-O-rama Candy Apples Fruit & Yogurt Yogurt Dip	Chicken Casserole with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Chick'n Casserole with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows
Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows	Hot Fudge Sundae with Whipped Cream & Marshmallows
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Reminder: 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/>

We have also created materials to help support awareness and education efforts, including editable resources. If you have any questions, please contact Pam VanKampen: pam.vankampen@gwaar.org

View the toolkit: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008941>