



Volume 8, No. 9 March 3, 2026
608-243-5670 | info@gwaar.org | gwaar.org



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Nice to Know

We're hiring: Advocacy and Public Policy Director

This role is responsible for mobilizing the aging network, building powerful coalitions, developing partnerships with other advocate organizations across the state, and representing the interests of older adults and family caregivers before state and federal governing bodies. As a primary liaison to the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN), this position will synchronize regional and statewide efforts to advance policy priorities and ensure the voices of older adults are heard. This position can be located at a home office or at our Madison office. Starting salary range is \$85,000-\$90,000 annually.

A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with at least 5 years of experience in the field of aging or community organizing or an equivalent combination of training and experience related to the duties of this position. Knowledge of the aging and long-term services network, the legislative process, lobbying requirements as well as experience in grassroots organizing, systems advocacy and government relations 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/4ueJkr0>



All current open positions can be viewed at <https://gwaar.org/jobs> including:

- Part-time Human Resources and Benefits Liaison
View the full job description: <https://bit.ly/46mcKck>
- Veteran Self-Directed Program (VSDP) Care Consultant
View the full job description: <https://bit.ly/4shIRCx>

Consumer Protection and Older Adults Roundtable: Top Reported Scams by Older Adults

Thursday, March 5 | 1:00 p.m.

Information and meeting link: <https://bit.ly/4siPR1Z>

Imposter scams affect everyone, but scammers posing as well-known businesses and government agencies are increasingly going after retirees' life savings. As part of National Consumer Protection Week, the FTC is hosting a discussion on top scams affecting older adults. Join representatives from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and AARP for a one-hour discussion to empower older adults to spot and avoid scams and help others do the same. Panelists will also share advice to help older adults protect and recover from fraud.

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://bit.ly/3N8hE6f>

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.



Event Time:
March 18, 2026 (A-300m - 5:00pm)
Location:
Dane County Job Center
1801 Abing Avenue, Madison
Register Here:
<https://wisdoj.gov/events.com/2026/03/18/elder-abuse-training>

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



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.

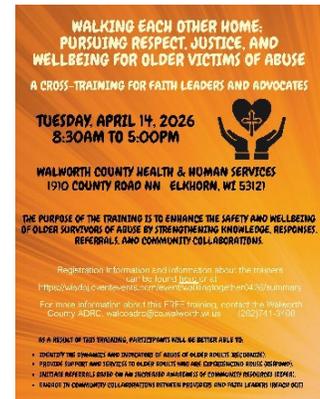
Walworth County Health & Human Services Building

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

ACTION ALERT: Your Help is Needed to Get the Elder Services Task Force Bills Across the Finish Line

The Wisconsin state legislature's bipartisan Speaker's Task Force on Elder Service developed a legislative package earlier this year to identify ways to improve the quality of life for older Wisconsinites. The package included six legislative bills and two associated funding bills. In late February, the State Assembly passed all eight bills proposed by the Task Force. The clock is ticking to get these bills passed by the State Senate which is scheduled to wrap up on March 19! To get the bills in front of the Governor and signed into law, they must first be passed by the following highlighted committees and the full Senate.

Take Action: Contact your State Senator this week to share with them how legislation proposed by the Speaker's Task Force on Elder Services would impact you, others you care about, and/or people in your community. Ask them to urge committee passage of the bills and get them on the calendar for a vote by the full State Senate. To find out who represents you in the state legislature, enter your home address in the "Who Are My Legislators?" box found on this page - <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>.

Read the full Action Alert here: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2008948>

ACTION ALERT: Contact Your State Senator and Ask Them to Support the FoodShare Funding Needed

Take Action:

1. If your State Assembly Representative supported the additional FoodShare funding included in AB 180, contact them and thank them for supporting the needed funding.
2. 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/> .



Please contact your state Senator and ask them to support the additional funding needed for FoodShare.

Read the full Action Alert here: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008947>

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.



Federal Funding Fallout 2025: Updates and Q&A

Cuts to federal Medicaid spending continue to be a top concern, however other programs important to people with disabilities may cut through the reconciliation bill process, and the administration is making changes at several federal agencies including the Dept. of Health and Human Services, Social Security, and Education that directly impact people with disabilities.



3/6 English Registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFunds36>

3/6 Spanish Registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFundSpan36>

View updates and resources: <https://wi-bpdd.org/index.php/federal-funding-updates/>

Rides to the Polls resource

Rides to the Polls is a list of transportation options for voting or voting-related activities for people with disabilities and older adults. This form is for organizations or transportation companies who offer voting-related rides. Information submitted through this form will be included in a list compiled by Disability Rights Wisconsin and made publicly available as a resource for Wisconsin voters.



View or complete the form with your organization's information: <https://bit.ly/4b0Ynf7>

Disability Vote Coalition Webinar: What's on the Ballot?

Tuesday, March 17 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Intended Audience: People with disabilities, caregivers, service providers, school staff, etc.

Wisconsin has a very important statewide election coming up this April. This webinar will talk about the role of the WI Supreme Court and how to find reliable candidate information. Also covered:

- Important deadlines
- Ways you can vote
- Your voting rights
- The latest election information

Registration: <https://bit.ly/DVCWebinarMarch2026>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008943>

View the event on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1AtS9inEVj/>

LUNCH & LEARN

What's on the Ballot: Getting Ready for the WI Supreme Court Election Zoom Webinar
March 17, 2026 | 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Wisconsin has a very important statewide election coming up this April. This webinar will talk about the role of the WI Supreme Court and how to find reliable candidate information. We will also cover:

- important deadlines
- ways you can vote
- your voting rights
- the latest election information

Intended Audience: people with disabilities, caregivers, service providers, school staff, etc.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/DVCWebinarMarch2026>
or scan the QR code:



ASL Interpreters will be available.

To request additional accommodations, please register as soon as possible and include that in your request.

Send questions in advance to info@disabilityvote.org

WISCONSIN **disability** **vote** COALITION
www.disabilityvote.org

Need help with voting?
Contact the Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline at:
844-DIS-VOTE / 844-347-8683
or email us at info@disabilityvote.org

Emergency Preparedness

Angie Sullivan, Health Promotion Program Specialist

Nice to Know

Be prepared with resources for March

March is known for being unpredictable in Wisconsin. But with resources from ReadyWisconsin and Ready.gov, we can raise awareness and help older adults with preparation tips.

ReadyWisconsin on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ReadyWisconsin/>



- **Mar. 8: Daylight Saving Time Begins.** As clocks move forward an hour on March 8, it is the perfect time to review and refresh emergency preparedness plans. It's also a great time to review home to-do lists for the potential impact from severe weather events. And don't forget to double-check those emergency kits to make sure they're ready to go!

Read the release: <https://wem.wi.gov/spring-into-action/>

- **Mar. 9 – 13: Wisconsin Flood Safety Awareness Week**

Flooding resources:

- <https://readywisconsin.wi.gov/flooding/>
- <https://www.ready.gov/floods>

Family Caregiver Support

[Bryn Ceman](#), Caregiver Programs Specialist

Need to Know

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

FREE Webinar 🌟 Addressing Food Insecurity for People Living Alone with Dementia

Tuesday, March 17, | 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Join the National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center to learn how food insecurity affects people living alone with dementia — and explore an innovative, volunteer-based food delivery model that works.

 Free & open to the public |  Recorded |  Closed captioning

 Pre-registration required |  **Register here:** <https://bit.ly/4rHAPmx>

 Please share with colleagues and partners!



Save the Date: 3rd Annual Dementia Conference

Wednesday, August 12 | 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Medford, WI

Please join the ADRC of Taylor County for the 3rd Annual Bringing Hope & Light to the Dementia Journey Conference, a free, full-day event for dementia caregivers, professionals, and individuals living with dementia or mild cognitive impairment.

Keynote Speakers:

- Dr. Michelle Braun, Author of High Octane Brain
- Angele Lunde, M.A., Author of Day to Day: Living with Dementia

The conference will include breakout sessions, vendor booths, lunch, and on-site respite for caregivers.

Registration information coming soon.



SAVE THE DATE
3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BRINGING HOPE & LIGHT TO THE
DEMANTIA JOURNEY

DATE: AUGUST 12, 2026 | TIME: 8:00AM-4:00 PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:
DR. MICHELLE BRAUN, AUTHOR OF "HIGH OCTANE BRAIN"
ANGELE LUNDE, M.A., AUTHOR OF "DAY TO DAY: LIVING WITH DEMANTIA"

FREE Conference for Dementia Caregivers, Professionals, and Those Living With Dementia or Mild Cognitive Impairment

QUESTIONS - CALL  845B E Broadway Medford, WI 54451 715-748-1491

ON SITE RESPITE AVAILABLE

LOCATION: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 751 GRACE WAY MEDFORD, WI 54451

• Breakout Sessions
• Vendor Booths Available
• Lunch Provided

REGISTRATION INFORMATION COMING SOON!

Reminder: 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:
 - 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

Fiscal Resources and Data Management

Carrie Kroetz, Data Management and Technology Coordinator

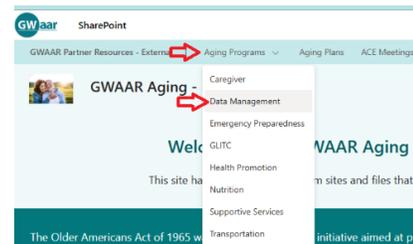
Need to Know

****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 – for all contracts, even if claiming zero.

****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**

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****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 5 and the 2026 Budget, along with the online transfer and waiver requests, are due March 31, 2026.

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

Regional Trainings (in-person)

GWAAR will be hosting four (4) Fiscal and PeerPlace Aging regional training sessions. Each session will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 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](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>

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](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

Voices Matter – Help Strengthen OAA Title III-D (Health Promotion) Programming

The Health Promotion Advisory Group is currently gathering input to better understand the impact of Health Promotion programs (OAA Title III-D) serving older adults in our community. These programs play an important role in supporting wellness, preventing chronic disease, and helping older adults live healthier, more independent lives.

While attendance totals and survey scores are important, numbers alone don't tell the whole story. We can count how many people joined a class, but we can't measure the confidence someone gained, the new friendships formed, or the healthy habits that continued at home. Your personal experience helps show the real difference these programs make. That's why your feedback is so valuable.

By taking just a few minutes to complete the feedback form, you help ensure these programs continue to meet real community needs. Your responses may be used for county, state, or federal reporting and outreach efforts. Every response strengthens our ability to advocate for older adults and enhance the services that matter most. Please take a moment to complete the survey by Thursday, April 2, 2026.

Complete the survey: <https://gwaar.wufoo.com/forms/z7a473w1dztg66n/>

If you have any questions about the form, Angie Sullivan is happy to help at angela.sullivan@gwaar.org or 608-228-8081. Thank you for helping us tell the full story and build a healthier, stronger community together.

Reminder: 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 webinar 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.



Nice to Know

Online Health Promotion Opportunity (Title IIID–Eligible Programming)

Support the health and independence of older adults in your community through an evidence-based, virtual strength training program offered by UW–Madison Extension.

Virtual StrongBodies is a proven strength-training and wellness program designed for older adults and delivered conveniently online via Zoom. This option allows Aging Units and ADRCs to reserve spots for county residents while meeting Title IIID health promotion requirements.

Program details:

- Program: UW–Madison Extension Virtual StrongBodies
- Format: Online via Zoom
- Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

(continued)

- Length: 11–12 weeks
- Cost: \$50 per participant
- Eligibility: Spots may be reserved by AUs/ADRCs for county residents

How it works:

- Reserve participant spots using the online request form: <https://bit.ly/3XLKknr>
- After your request is received, UW–Madison Extension will provide:
 - An invoice for payment
 - A promotional flyer for the upcoming virtual series (editable to include your local contact information)
 - A link to the online registration page so you can enroll local residents

Reporting support:

- Participant demographic information will be shared with you after the registration deadline for each series to support Peer Place reporting.

Learn more about StrongBodies: <https://health.extension.wisc.edu/strongbodies/>

Nutrition

[Kristi Cooley](#), Nutrition Program Specialist

[Jean Lynch](#), Program Specialist Manager

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

Nice to Know

National Nutrition Month is Here! Discover the Power of Nutrition – March 18!

Help Us Celebrate Nutrition Across Wisconsin

If your event is already scheduled, great — keep spreading the word! If not, there’s still time to plan a local event and join this statewide celebration of nutrition services.

Use the **Editable Event Flier** and **Agency Toolkit/Checklist** in the SharePoint site to make sharing and planning easy. These resources help you reach participants, staff, and community partners quickly.

Don’t miss the chance to highlight how nutrition supports healthy aging — get your materials and start sharing today!

Find everything here - March 2026 Discover the Power of Nutrition Event: <https://bit.ly/4qQ8r0p>

👉 **If you are hosting (or plan to host), please email your Nutrition Program Specialist or Kristi Cooley directly to let us know.**

We would also love to receive copies of your promotional materials so we can highlight efforts happening across the state. Questions? Contact Kristi.Cooley@gwaar.org



National Registered Dietitians Day: Wednesday, March 11th

National Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered Day: Thursday, March 12th

Help the GWAAR nutrition team recognize and show appreciation to all the Registered Dietitians

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Nutritionists and Nutrition and Dietetic Technicians who work for, or partner with, the Wisconsin Elder Nutrition Program! We are tremendously grateful for their passion and expertise, which is always a valuable asset as we all work together to best nourish older adults!

There are many important roles that Registered Dietitians Nutritionists (RDNs) and Nutrition and Dietetic Technicians, registered (NDTR's) to help people live healthier lives. Each of these professionals are celebrated on specific days during National Nutrition Month®

- Celebrated on the second Wednesday in March, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day increases awareness of registered dietitian nutritionists as the indispensable providers of food and nutrition services and recognizes RDNs for their commitment to helping people enjoy healthy lives.
- Celebrated on the second Thursday in March, Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered Day commemorates the contributions and experience of NDTRs in the delivery of safe, culturally competent, quality food and nutrition services.

So make sure to acknowledge the nutrition professional you have in your local agency. Check out some of the ways you can celebrate your nutrition professionals by visiting the links below:

<https://www.eatright.org/health/wellness/awareness-campaigns/rdn-day>

<https://www.eatright.org/health/wellness/awareness-campaigns/ndtr-day>

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

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

Nice to Know

Spring issue of The Scoop available

The Spring issue of the SMP newsletter, The Scoop is now available. This issue of the SMP Scoop features recognition of the Senior Nutrition program and Older Americans Month, a welcome to our new Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council team members, national prescription drug take back day information, understanding vaccines covered by Medicare, Justice Served: \$172 million fraud and money laundering scheme, a celebration of volunteers for National Volunteer Appreciation week, and so much more!

Read the Spring issue of The Scoop: <https://bit.ly/409VONT>

March Scam Spotlight

The March Scam Spotlight focuses on Nursing Home Fraud. Unfortunately, nursing home fraud does happen, and it can affect both the quality-of-care residents receive and the security of their Medicare benefits.

Read the March Scam Spotlight: <https://bit.ly/4sgllIE>

