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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

Registration now open for July 8 ACE meeting

Wednesday, July 8 | 10:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center, Stevens Point

(Refreshments and continental breakfast available at 9:00 a.m. along with lunch around 11:45 a.m.)

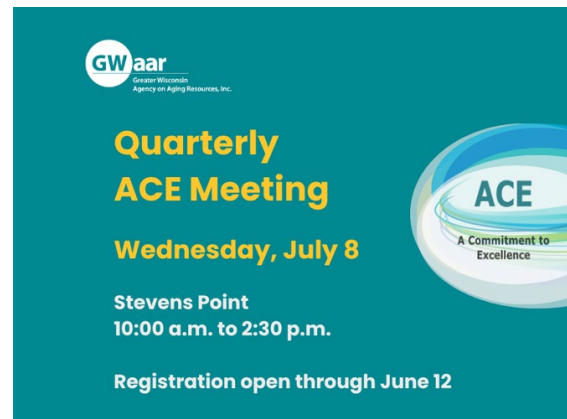
Register now:

<https://gwaar.wufoo.com/forms/z1o22p721chm7ss/>

Registration closes on June 12. Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the registrant.

In addition to GWAAR and bureau updates, we will have a presentation from Megan Takahaski from Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) on National Aging Program Information System (NAPIS) reporting and how to utilize different reports as well as how to monitor for federal compliance/completeness. We'll also hear from Jill Renken at the Wisconsin Institute for Health Aging (WIHA) about WIHA health promotion resources and a new program.

In the afternoon we will have breakout sessions with your peers to share your successes and challenges in various aging programs areas. *Watch for a detailed agenda in early June.*



We are hiring: [Public Interest Elder Law Attorney](#)

This full-time role supports and trains elder benefit specialists in Aging & Disability Resource Centers across a 15-county region, provides legal and technical guidance on public benefit programs, and represents older adults directly. Occasional overnight statewide travel is required. Salary range: \$64,000-\$70,000 annually, based on experience.

Requirements include a Juris Doctor from an ABA-accredited law school and admission to the State Bar of Wisconsin. Candidates should demonstrate a commitment to serving older adults, people with disabilities, and/or individuals with low income. Preferred qualifications include knowledge of state and federal benefit or health care programs and client experience in areas such as estate planning, Medicaid, housing, consumer law, administrative hearings, or general civil matters. To apply, send cover letter and resume to: info@gwaar.org. **Read the full job description:** <https://bit.ly/4uhJHAq>



All jobs are posted on our website: <https://gwaar.org/jobs>, including: [Guardianship Support Center Managing Attorney](#): <https://bit.ly/4tr4sJx>

Advocacy

[Emily Petersen](#), Advocacy and Public Policy Director

Need to Know

Take Action for Older Americans Month

Thank you to all who joined us earlier this month for the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network's (WAAN) Day of Action!

In the spirit of Older Americans Month, let's keep the momentum going and continue advocating for the programs and services that allow older adults to champion their health:

Aging & Disability Resource Centers – <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009016>

Falls Prevention - <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009015>

Home-Delivered Meals - <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009014>

Take action now! Contact your state legislators to advocate for these important funding needs. Use the two customizable action alerts below that allow you to directly connect with your representatives.

Email Alert – <https://bit.ly/4w7OMNn>

Phone Alert – <https://bit.ly/4dp31pw>

If you missed our Day-of-Action virtual training, the recording is here: <https://youtu.be/9FpEOdUHVtI?si=ddNEvsOAdTWc7GPI>



In-District Meetings

Legislators are in their districts and eager to hear from constituents about the issues that matter. Now is a great time to schedule an In-District Aging Advocacy event in your region with your state Representatives and Senators. **Local hosts are encouraged to schedule these events between now and the end of October 2026.** When you schedule your meeting, please reach out to let us know!

If you would like information about planning an In-District meeting, view our toolkit here:

<https://gwaar.org/advocacy-toolkit>

If you are the host of a local in-district meeting and seeking financial resources to help offset costs of running your event, please review the WAAN Reimbursement Request form to see if you qualify for assistance: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2008991>

Nice to Know

Reminder: Federal Funding Fallout: 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.

5/22 English registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFund522>

5/22 Spanish registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFundSpa522>

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



Elder Abuse Programs

[Donna Rosner](#), Elder Abuse Program Specialist

Nice to Know

Reminder: World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD): June 15

June 15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is less than a month away, check out the [WEAAD page](#) for resources and to post your event at both the State and National level! WEAAD National Resources and State Events:

<https://bit.ly/4wqNx1Y>

View the WEAAD Share Kit: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009037>



Adult Protective Services Tribal Round Table

Tuesday, June 9 | 7:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Oneida Nation and Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Elder Program is sponsoring an APS Tribal Roundtable scheduled for June 9.

View the flyer for more information

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2009027>



Ho-Chunk Nation's WEAAD Outreach Events

Learn more about Ho-Chunk Nation's World Elder Abuse Awareness (WEAAD) 2026 outreach events.

Ho-Chunk is interested in having collaborative partners join them for Scam Singo Bingo.

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2009026>

Questions can be sent to Mary Wegman Mary.Wegman@Ho-Chunk.com



Family Caregiver Support

[Bryn Ceman](#), Caregiver Programs Specialist

Nice to Know

Attention Caregiver Coordinators! ☀️

Wednesday, June 3 | 1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Encourage dementia caregivers to attend “Caring with Confidence: Dementia Caregiver Symposium” 🧠, a free event on June 3, 2026, 1-3:30 PM at Northcentral Technical College, Wausau. 📺 Topics include understanding dementia and building brain-healthy habits. 💡

Share the registration link 🖱️ <https://bit.ly/caringwithconfidence> . ❤️

Reminder: Caregiver Coordinators - Please share! Help Family Caregivers: Be Prepared, Stay Protected!

📅 Thursday, May 21 | 🕒 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Join USAging & The Carter Center for a free webinar on Emergency Response Planning & Preparedness for Family Caregivers ❤️

💡 Learn how to:

- ✓ Plan ahead for emergencies
- ✓ Reduce risks for your loved one
- ✓ Stay prepared and confident in times of crisis

👥 Open to family caregivers & those supporting them!

📄 Includes live captioning & ASL interpretation

🔗 Register here:

https://usaging-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mHUIpzCITqKoJJuMwOp3YA#/registration

Please share with caregivers in your community ❤️



Reminder: New Virtual Support Group for Working Family Caregivers

The ADRC of La Crosse County has launched a new monthly Virtual Working Family Caregiver Support Group open to working caregivers across Wisconsin.

This support group is designed for adults balancing employment with caregiving responsibilities for an older adult, spouse/partner, adult child with a disability, or another loved one with ongoing care needs.

The group provides an opportunity for caregivers to:

- Connect with others experiencing similar challenges
- Share resources and strategies
- Reduce isolation and stress
- Build support and community

-continued-

Virtual Working Family Caregiver Support Group

Do you have family caregiving responsibilities in addition to traditional child rearing? It may surprise you to learn that one in four working-age adults provides care or financial assistance to an older family member, an adult child or other loved one with a disability, or a spouse with a long-term illness.

This Support Group is open to ALL Working Family Caregivers! The focus will be on reducing the stress of working family caregivers, who are juggling work, homelife and caregiving.

Meet other working family caregivers and share the caregiving journey!
To Register: Call the ADRC of La Crosse at 608-785-5700

Any questions?
Contact Kristine Meyer at 608-386-0922 or kmeyer@lacrossecounty.org

Meets virtually the 1st Wednesday of the month from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

2026 DATES		
February 4		August 5
March 4		September 2
April 1		October 7
May 6		November 4
June 3		December 2
July 1		

Meeting Details: 📅 First Wednesday of each month |

🕒 6:00–7:00 p.m. | 💻 Virtual Format

To register: 📞 ADRC of La Crosse County:
608-785-5700

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2009028>

Questions? Contact Kristine Meyer, CSW, Certified Caregiver Coach at kmeyer@lacrossecounty.org or 608-386-0922.

Please help spread the word to working family caregivers in your communities.

This support group, along with other ongoing virtual caregiver support groups across Wisconsin, can also be found at: <https://wisconsin-caregiver.org/ongoing-virtual-support-groups>

🌟 Webinar: From Insights to Action – Integrating Family Caregivers into Health Care 🌟

Wednesday, May 27 | 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Building on March’s discussion about the essential role of family caregivers in complex care, this upcoming session takes the next step—highlighting how health systems are actively integrating caregivers into care delivery.



📺 Learn how hospitals and health systems are:

- Testing and expanding caregiver support programs
- Supporting caregivers across diverse care settings and populations
- Leveraging Medicare Caregiver Training Services reimbursement codes

📅 Don’t miss this important conversation on what it takes to truly support family caregivers across the health care system.

🔗 **Register here:** <https://bit.ly/4nrFs2H>

📣 Help spread the word!

Reminder: New Opportunity for Grandfamilies & Kinship Caregivers 🌟

Generations United has launched Grandfamilies & Kinship University (GKU)—a new national leadership and community-impact program for kinship caregivers, including grandparents, relatives, and close family friends raising children.



GKU offers leadership training, peer learning, and support to help caregivers turn their lived experience into action, strengthening their own families while creating positive change in their communities.

No formal leadership experience is required, just a passion to make a difference.

📅 Applications are open through June 8, 2026

🔗 **Learn more and apply:** <https://www.gu.org/projects/gku/>

👉 Caregiver Coordinators & Partners: Please share this opportunity with kinship families in your networks.

Fiscal Resources and Data Management

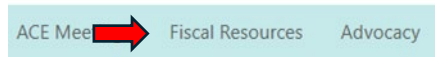
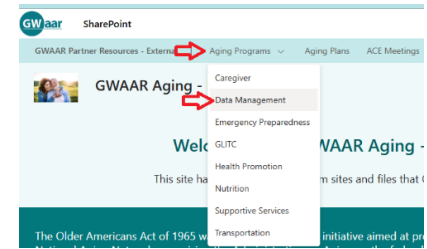
Carrie Kroetz, Data Management and Technology Coordinator

Need to Know

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](#)



****PeerPlace Review and Cleanup****

GWAAR will conduct another round of data review over the next few weeks and will reach out to Aging Units regarding noticed errors. Thank you all for being so prompt in addressing these! Just as a reminder, error Reports/View Builders should be run monthly to ensure accuracy in data and fiscal reporting. Please refer to the associated webinars for your program.

****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>

Meeting Date	Registration Deadline	Location	Address
27-May	13-May	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](#) closed:

Meeting Date	Registration Deadline	Location	Address
20-May	Registration closed	Antigo - NorthStar Lanes	400 Prosser Place Antigo WI 54409
28-May	LIMIT REACHED - REGISTRATION CLOSED (05/06/26)	Beaver Dam - Moraine Park Technical College	700 Gould Street Beaver Dam WI 53916

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Tribal Fiscal and Data Focus Topics Training – GLITC will be hosting the Tribal Fiscal and Data Training along with the May TAU meeting. Please contact GLITC for more information regarding registration and hotel accommodations.

Meeting Date	Location	Address
21-May	Menominee Tribe - Keshena	Menominee Casino & Resort N277 WI-47, Keshena, WI 54135

Nutrition

[Kristi Cooley](#), Nutrition Program Specialist

[Jean Lynch](#), Program Specialist Manager

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

Need to Know

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Orgain Healthcare posted the [Evidence-Based Brief](#) for new tools to manage stress. Their latest blog explores simple lifestyle strategies — including nutrition, sleep, movement, mindfulness, and social connection — that can help support emotional and physical health at every age. Read the full article and discover approachable tools you can incorporate into daily life.

Read the article: <https://bit.ly/49KUfzV>

Food & Mood: How Nutrition Impacts Mental Well-Being

Thursday, May 21 | 1:00 p.m.

This free webinar will also be recorded, so you can access it later.

Webinar registration: <https://bit.ly/4v1ZfIM>




Food Allergy Awareness Month – Training & Resources Available Help Promote Safe Meal Service for Older Adults

May is Food Allergy Awareness Month and serves as a reminder of the importance of food safety and allergy awareness in nutrition programs and meal sites. Food allergies and sensitivities can affect individuals at any age, making it important for staff to stay informed and prepared.



The following resources are available to support food allergy awareness and food safety practices:

- View the presentation (registered SharePoint users):
 [Food Allergy Training https://bit.ly/4dCu3J2](https://bit.ly/4dCu3J2) (approximately 15 minutes)
- **Wisconsin Food Code Fact Sheets**, including the **Food Allergy Requirements Fact Sheet:**
https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/FoodCodeFactSheets.aspx



These resources provide practical information to help strengthen food safety practices and support safe meal service for participants.

Questions? Please contact your GWAAR Nutrition Representative.

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

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

Nice to Know

Reminder: May Scam Spotlight focuses on Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)

RPM is the ability for health care providers to monitor certain parts of a person's health from their home. This monitoring allows providers to collect and analyze various data (like heart rate, blood glucose, breathing rate, etc.) and then use it to make and oversee a person's treatment plan.

Unfortunately, the fraudsters have ways to take advantage of Medicare and Medicare beneficiaries in this area. The May Scam Spotlight highlights RPM devices and also explains the importance of reviewing Medicare statements to catch suspicious claims.

Read the May Scam Spotlight: <https://bit.ly/4ncluci>



Wisconsin SMP
May 2026 **SCAM SPOTLIGHT**

Remote Patient Monitoring

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) uses digital devices to collect and send patient data and clinical information. The health care provider reviews the patient's health data. This information is used to manage health conditions, detect health risks, and educate patients. Often, the information is collected by the patient outside of the health care setting. For example, types of RPM devices include:

- Scales to check your weight
- Tools that check your heart rate
- Technology that measures your blood sugar
- Instruments that check blood pressure
- Tools that check for sleep problems
- Equipment to track breathing
- Monitors to track your baby while you are pregnant



Remote patient monitoring (RPM) covers a wide variety of services a provider may offer to help monitor or assess certain chronic conditions. SMPs are hearing about RPM claims appearing on Medicare statements, like the Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) and/or Explanation of Benefits (EOB), where the beneficiary does not believe they received or agreed to the services. If you see any RPM claims on your Medicare statement that you did not agree to, contact Wisconsin SMP.

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol has a toll-free helpline to report any Medicare fraud. Call 888-818-2611 to report fraudulent activity. For more information, please call or go to www.smpwi.org



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