



Volume 8, No. 21 May 26, 2026
608-243-5670 | info@gwaar.org | gwaar.org



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

Reminder: 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.)

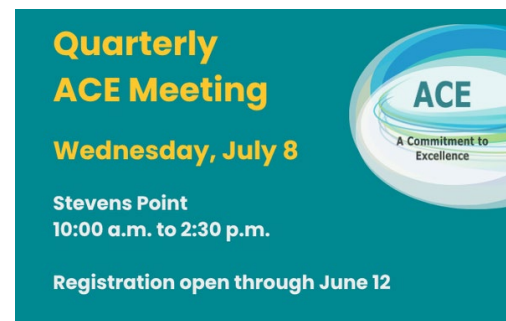
Register now:

<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.*

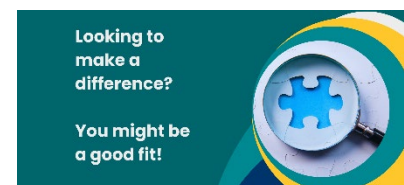


We are hiring

All jobs are posted on our website: <https://gwaar.org/jobs>, including:

Public Interest Elder Law Attorney: <https://bit.ly/4uhJHAq>

Guardianship Support Center Managing Attorney: <https://bit.ly/4tr4sJx>



Advocacy

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

Need to Know

Act Now 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>

Act 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>

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027 Proposed Budget

In early April, President Trump released his [proposed FFY27 budget](#), featuring minimal changes to most Older Americans Act (OAA) programs. The budget proposes the elimination of one OAA program: the Community Service Employment program, housed within the Department of Labor.

View the proposed budget: <https://bit.ly/42TjBYL>

The proposed budget also includes the elimination of the Low-Income Home Energy assistance program, the Community Services Block Grant and Community Development Block Grant programs (which provide funding to counties), and all AmeriCorps programs.

The proposed 2027 budget is the very first step in a long budget creation process. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees will each create 12 appropriation bills for each area of the government, before negotiating final bills for the President to sign. As a reminder, the federal fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30.

This week, Congress started its work on marking up and holding hearings on different parts of the federal budget. **Do not wait! Contact your federal representatives and ensure that Older Americans Act programs are not only preserved in the FFY27 budget but increased.** Level funding for these programs is not enough—inflation, the increasing aging population, and growing demand for services means that we cannot do the same level of service with the same amount of money.

Email Alert: <http://bit.ly/4u2koCq>



-continued-

Complete the email action alert to contact Senators Baldwin and Johnson, and your U.S. Representative, to ask for increased funding for Older Americans Act programs and services. **Please be sure to review the email before sending as it is customizable and includes template language for you to insert.**

Legislators will be spending a lot of time in their districts over the summer months. Now is the perfect time to invite them to meet with you or visit your service location! These are great opportunities to show off the amazing work you are doing, advocate for funding, and thank them for their work in supporting our aging population.

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.

5/29 English registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFunds529>

5/29 Spanish registration: <https://bit.ly/FedFundSpa529>

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



Elder Abuse Programs

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

Need to Know

Reporting Elder Abuse in Wisconsin

In addition to the resources available for the prevention of elder abuse, Wisconsin residents also have access to a dedicated resource to learn about and report elder abuse at reportelderabusewi.org/. There's also information about the Elder Abuse Hotline which just marked its 6th anniversary earlier this month, and a specialized form for reporting elder abuse.

Visit the website: <https://reportelderabusewi.org/>



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>



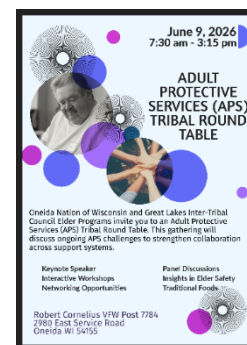
Nice to Know

Reminder: 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>



Reminder: 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

Need to Know

Wisconsin Caregiver Coordinator Statewide Meeting Follow-Up

Thank you to everyone who joined the May Caregiver Coordinator Statewide Meeting! 😊

Meeting notes and presentation materials are now available on the GWAAR website:

<https://gwaar.org/wisconsin-caregiver-support-community-monthly-calls>

Unfortunately, due to the Microsoft Teams outage on May 13, the meeting recording was lost.

The meeting included important trainings and updates. Please take time to review:

- Kinship and Relative Caregivers Training Presentation
- RCAW Resources for Professionals

We also talked about possible updates to:

- 📄 Caregiver enrollment forms
- 📄 Caregiver needs assessments
- 💌 A statewide caregiver "Welcome Letter"

To help with this work, we are starting a short-term workgroup (about 3–6 months) to review forms, best practices, and caregiver communication materials.

Interested in joining? Please contact Bryn Ceman at bryn.ceman@gwaar.org. A Doodle Poll will be sent to help schedule meetings.

We currently have 7 volunteers. Thank you for your support! 💙

Wisconsin's
FamilyCaregiver
Support Programs

Nice to Know

Family caregivers are essential partners in care delivery.

Join this webinar on May 27 (12 - 1 PM CT) to learn how health systems are integrating and supporting caregivers through real-world programs, practical strategies, and Medicare caregiver support resources.

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



Reminder: 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> . ❤️

Fiscal Resources and Data Management

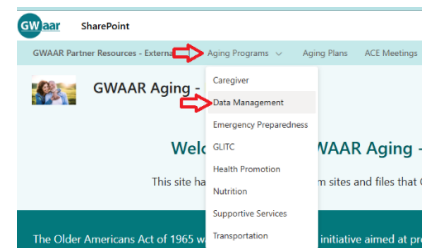
Carrie Kroetz, Data Management and Technology Coordinator

Need to Know

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

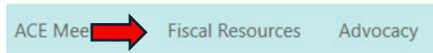
<https://gwaar.sharepoint.com/sites/PartnerResources> | Aging Programs | [Data Management](#)

<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)

Data Training Dates and Locations:

Adventure Awaits – Navigating the Sea of Data - [Registration](#) closed

Meeting Date	Registration Deadline	Location	Address
27-May	Registration closed	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
28-May	LIMIT REACHED - REGISTRATION CLOSED (05/06/26)	Beaver Dam - Moraine Park Technical College	700 Gould Street Beaver Dam WI 53916

Nutrition

[Kristi Cooley](#), Nutrition Program Specialist

[Jean Lynch](#), Program Specialist Manager

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

Need to Know

Reminder: 2026 Summer Regional Nutrition Director Meetings Registration Deadline Approaching

As shared at the WAND Conference, the 2026 Summer Regional Nutrition Director Meetings are set. You only need to attend one meeting location offered throughout the state. These meetings provide an opportunity to receive program updates, discuss best practices, and connect with peers across the network.

Meeting information: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009047>

RSVP to Jean Lynch at GWAAR (jean.lynych@gwaar.org) by June 5, 2026. When registering, please include:

- Which meeting you will attend
- Whether you plan to eat lunch
- Any dietary accommodations needed

BADR will provide meals, snacks, and coffee for attendees.

The meeting dates, locations, updates, and the draft agenda are available on the Aging SharePoint Site or the GWAAR External Website in this folder (available to registered SharePoint users)

[Summer Nutrition Director Meetings](#).

Agenda topics include nutrition standards updates, client registration and screening best practices, congregate dining participation strategies, home-delivered meal advocacy, and program sharing/discussion. **View the agenda:** <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009046>

We hope to see you all this summer. Questions, please reach out to your Nutrition Program Specialist.

Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol

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

Nice to Know

Medicare Fraud Prevention Week June 1-5

Help share the word about Medicare fraud and prevention by joining the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) and their partners for Medicare Fraud Prevention Week, which runs through the week of June 5, or 6/5, because most people become eligible for Medicare when they turn 65.

We're excited to teach people both about how to protect themselves from Medicare fraud and about the services that the Senior Medicare Patrol program offers. We hope that people will remember the numbers '6-5' to help us celebrate Medicare Fraud Prevention Week.

Read the full press release:

<https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009041>

To share our posts during the week, make sure you follow Wisconsin SMP on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinSeniorMedicarePatrol>

Or, download your own using the national SMP Social Media Toolkit:

<https://smpresource.org/mfpw/social-media-kit/>

