



Volume 8, No. 25 June 23, 2026
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Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) News

Need to Know

July 8 ACE Meeting – Registration deadline June 26; agenda updated

Wednesday, July 8 | 10:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Registration/refreshments 9:00 a.m., lunch included

*Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center | 1015 Reserve Street,
3rd Floor, Alumni Room | Stevens Point, WI 54481*

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the ACE Meeting on Wednesday, July 8 in Stevens Point. Please park in Lot R right off Reserve St. A PDF parking permit will be emailed to you, so parking is free.

If you haven't registered yet, the deadline has been extended through June 26. We need your registration to better plan for lunch and refreshments and to provide parking passes. Please note, hotel arrangements are the responsibility of attendees.

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

Please review the updated agenda, which includes an updated list of breakout sessions for the afternoon.

- Nutrition
- Elder Abuse and Adult Protective Services
- Fiscal/Data Reporting
- Caregiver Services
- Advocacy

View the updated agenda: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009050>



Nice to Know

Staff updates

Introducing Leah Newel, Fiscal Assistant

Leah officially joined GWAAR Fiscal as our newest Fiscal Assistant in May. Leah will be taking on the duties and responsibilities that Deb Smith had with GWAAR Fiscal. Leah is a lifelong Wisconsin resident with non-profit experience as an accounting assistant. She's enjoying learning about the aging network and the assistance GWAAR provides across the state. Welcome Leah!

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Introducing Evan Ewing, Health Promotion Program Specialist

Evan joined GWAAR in mid-June as our Health Promotion Program Specialist. He has experience serving others within a variety of non-profit settings and earned his graduate degree in public health. Most recently he has been focused on implementing strategies and programs to keep residents healthy. Welcome Evan!



Use Your Leadership Skills to Support Older People in Wisconsin

GWAAR is looking for thoughtful, civic-minded, energetic individuals to serve on its 10-member board. Board Members play a critical role in guiding and overseeing the agency's actions and initiatives.

Candidates must live outside Dane and Milwaukee Counties and be able to devote time and energy to the GWAAR's governance.

Learn more: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005629>

Questions? Contact GWAAR Executive Director John Schnabl, john.schnabl@gwaar.org



Advocacy

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

Need to Know

Action Alert: Regulation on Federal grantmaking rules

Submit a comment by July 13!

Last month, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) related a [proposed regulation](#) that would change the way Federal grants and awarded and administer with the goal of improving “transparency, accountability, and oversight.” This proposed rule implements the Executive Order [Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#) and includes the following provisions:



- Awards must match presidential priorities—discretionary awards must “demonstrably advance the President’s policy priorities.”
- Potential awardees are reviewed by senior political appointees to ensure they meet these priorities and do not promote “anti-American values” or “undermine public safety.”
- Discretionary awards can be suspended or cancelled for any reason, with no warning, justification, or appeal.
- All awards (discretionary and formula) could be subject to change in the terms and conditions of the grant after a grant agreement has already been signed—this provision could apply to Older American Act funds.
- Broad condemnation for any grant activities that are considered “woke”, “DEI”, or dealing with gender ideology.

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- Ban on engaging in voter registration efforts.
- **New restrictions on lobbying, including:**
 - “Engaging in issue advocacy or public messaging that promotes or opposes a particular social, political, or public policy position unrelated to the statutory objectives or performance requirements of the Federal award, including messaging designed to influence public attitudes on matters not necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Federal award.”

This is a high-level overview of the rule that does not include all potential provisions. Agencies, including those entities that receive discretionary and formula grant funds, would receive increased scrutiny in the grantmaking, grant oversight, and reporting processes, which could severely limit their ability to effectively carry out their work.

We are waiting on further analysis of this rule that is more specific to Older American Act grantees, but know that many of our partners receive federal funds from many grant sources and could be at risk if this rule goes into effect.

You can provide a comment on this rule until July 13. If you are interested in sharing how this rule may impact your organization, you can do so [here](#).

View the proposed regulation: <https://bit.ly/3SDI8jx>

View the [Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking](#) executive order: <https://bit.ly/4vmzfZ2>

Provide a comment on this rule (deadline July 13) <https://bit.ly/4q7j9xT>

Nice to Know

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>



Reminder: Federal Funding Fallout Webinar

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities will cover what is happening in the state and the latest in Congress, actions the federal administration is taking, and the impacts HR 1 is having on state budgets, disability services, family caregivers, and the health and home and community-based care systems.

6/26 English registration: <https://bit.ly/4aUfzU6>

6/26 Spanish registration: <https://bit.ly/4emV9UM>



Elder Abuse Programs

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

Nice to Know

Learn more about reframing and addressing ageism

Be a part of ending ageism and ableism in Wisconsin! Sign Up for the [Champions List](#) to reframing aging and disability.

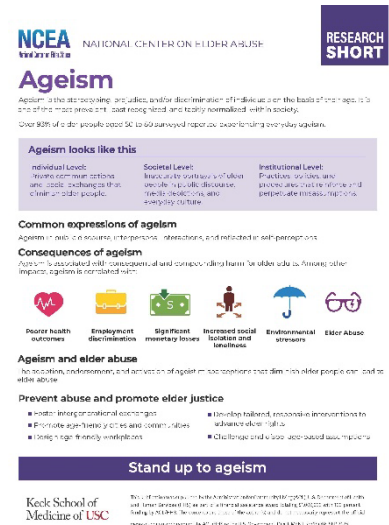
If you have more question on reframing, please contact Donna.Rosner@gwaar.org.

Sign up for the Champions List:

<https://wiha.wufoo.com/forms/w152jg3f0s6pwd6/>



View the NCEA flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009073>



Family Caregiver Support

[Bryn Ceman](#), Caregiver Programs Specialist

Need to Know

NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: One-Time NFCSP Funds Available!

GWAAR has identified ***\$215,381*** in unspent 2025 National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) Title III-E funds.

First Come, First Served: Funding will be awarded to eligible counties that can fully expend funds by 12/31/26, use funds only for approved NFCSP services, and submit a final report.

- Maximum Request:** \$20,000 per county
- Applications Open:** Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.
- Application Deadline:** Friday, July 31, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. or until funds are fully assigned
- Performance Period:** August 1 – December 31, 2026

Allowable Uses Include:

- Respite Care
- Supplemental Services
- Caregiver Training & Education
- Caregiver Support Groups
- Public Information

Optional Technical Assistance Call

Tuesday, June 30 | 2:30 p.m. via [Microsoft Teams: https://bit.ly/4ezmuTO](https://bit.ly/4ezmuTO)

The Technical Assistance Call will be recorded and available on GWAAR's External SharePoint and website: National Family Caregiver Support Program. Questions? Contact Bryn Ceman at Bryn.Ceman@GWAAR.org

Wisconsin's
Family Caregiver
Support Programs

Nice to Know

Reminder: Free Virtual Training Opportunity: Discover Wisconsin's Caregiver Learning Library Through Tualta

Wednesday, June 24 | 12:00 p.m.  Free Virtual Event

The Wisconsin Family & Caregiver Support Alliance (WFACSA), in partnership with Wisconsin DHS, invites caregivers, professionals, employers, and community partners to join a live virtual tour of Wisconsin's free Tualta caregiver education platform.

Caregiver Education & Training at Your Fingertips: A Tualta Tour

Participants will receive a guided overview of Tualta's online learning library and resources, including:

-  Dementia Care
-  Working & Caregiving
-  Caregiver Wellness
-  Falls Prevention
-  Autism Support
-  Medications
-  Emergency Planning
-  Burnout Recovery


Tualta offers hundreds of educational videos, learning modules, practical tools, and resources designed to support family caregivers, professionals, employers, HR staff, grandfamilies, and community partners across Wisconsin.

Register for the Tualta Tour: <https://bit.ly/4gmXKka>

Please help us share this opportunity through your organization's:

- Facebook and social media channels
- Newsletters
- Caregiver mailings
- Caregiver support groups
- Community calendars
- Staff and partner networks

The more caregivers and professionals we reach, the more individuals can connect to trusted education, support, and resources available through Tualta and WisconsinCaregiver.org.

Thank you for helping us spread the word! 

Reminder: Upcoming Dementia Webinar Opportunity

Wednesday, June 24 | 12:00–1:00 p.m.

Join the ACL-funded National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC) for:
Bridging Health Care and Social Services for People Living with Dementia and Their Caregivers

As the number of people living with dementia continues to grow, collaboration between health care systems and community-based organizations is increasingly important.

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The graphic is a promotional flyer for a virtual tour of the Tualta caregiver education platform. At the top, it features the Tualta logo and the title "Caregiver Education & Training at your Fingertips: A Tualta Tour". Below the title, it states "Explore Wisconsin's FREE online learning library with hundreds of videos, activities, and toolkits to support you in your caregiving journey." The central part of the graphic shows a laptop and a smartphone displaying the Tualta website interface. Surrounding the devices are icons for various topics: Dementia Care, Working & Caregiving, Caregiver Wellness, Falls Prevention, Autism Support, Medications, Emergency Planning, and Burnout Recovery. At the bottom, it provides the event details: "WEDNESDAY June 24, 2026" at "12:00 PM CST" as a "Live Virtual Event" where "Everyone Welcome!". A prominent blue button says "REGISTER TODAY!" with the URL "https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/BWH4r_BHT-XcGfjVjQf/registration" and a note to "Copy and paste the link above to register". A small box on the left indicates the event is "FREE FOR ALL WISCONSINITES!" and lists target audiences: Family Caregivers, Professionals, Employers, HR Staff, and Grandfamilies + Community Partners. On the right, there is a logo for the ACL (Administration on Community Living) and a note that the program is supported by the Administration on Community Living (ACL) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$480,000 with 75% coverage funded by ACL, HRSA and BHEC and 25% covered by other non-governmental sources. The text also states that the contents are those of the speakers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Administration on Community Living or the U.S. Government.

This webinar will highlight successful strategies for integrating health care and social services to support people living with dementia and their caregivers.



Presenters will share promising practices, implementation lessons learned, and recommendations for strengthening partnerships that help individuals remain in their homes and communities.


This free webinar may be of interest to Caregiver Coordinators, ADRC and Tribal ADRS staff, Aging Unit professionals, dementia care providers, and community partners.

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

Please consider sharing this opportunity with colleagues and community partners.

Reminder: Free Webinar for Professionals

Walking in Their Shoes: Engaging Students in Dementia Awareness






 Thursday, June 25 |  12:00 – 1:00 p.m.  Virtual & Free

Learn how schools, aging services professionals, and community partners can work together to build dementia awareness, foster empathy, and create meaningful intergenerational connections.

Topics include:

- ◆ Dementia education for students
- ◆ Experiential learning through Dementia Live®
- ◆ Student involvement in Memory Cafés and dementia-friendly programs
- ◆ Building community partnerships
- ◆ Inspiring future careers in aging and dementia care

This webinar may be especially valuable for:




-  Educators
-  Dementia Care Specialists
-  ADRC, Tribal ADRS, and Aging Unit staff
-  Social workers and care managers
-  Anyone interested in intergenerational programming

 **Register here:** <https://bit.ly/3Q7CGUh>

Please share with colleagues, schools, and community partners!

#DementiaAwareness #IntergenerationalPrograms #AgingServices #MemoryCare #DementiaFriendly
#WisconsinCaregivers #CommunityPartnerships

Reminder: Conference Opportunity for Caregivers of those with Dementia & Caregiver Support Professionals

 Wednesday, August 12 |  8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. |  First Baptist Church, Medford, WI

The ADRC of Taylor County is hosting the: ****Bringing Hope & Light to the Dementia Journey Conference****

This free conference is designed to support caregivers, professionals, and individuals living with dementia through education, resources, and connection.

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The day will include:

- ✔ Keynote speakers
- ✔ Breakout sessions
- ✔ Resource & exhibitor booths
- ✔ Networking opportunities
- ✔ Lunch provided
- ✔ On-site respite available for caregivers

This event may be especially valuable for:

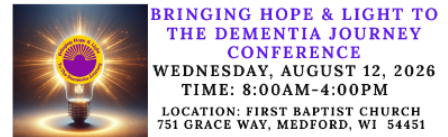
- Caregiver Coordinators
- Dementia Care Specialists
- ADRC Specialists
- Aging Network Professionals
- Healthcare & Community Partners

✦ Registration is free, but required by July 31, 2026.

⚠ **IMPORTANT:** Caregivers needing on-site respite services must complete respite paperwork by July 1, 2026, to allow time for staffing and intake coordination.

🔗 Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/261195163050147>

View the flyer: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009057>



The ADRC of Taylor County is excited to bring Hope & Light to the Northwoods! The 3rd Annual "Bringing Hope & Light to the Dementia Journey" conference is designed to empower our community, dementia caregivers, and those living with dementia through education, resources, and support. The conference agenda includes two keynote speakers, 8 breakout sessions and a variety of exhibitors/resource booths. The ADRC of Taylor County is partnering with BRI in Medford to provide on-site respite, so caregivers can attend and actively participate in the conference with the peace of mind that their loved one is in a safe environment. Conference attendees will also receive lunch at no cost.

A huge THANK YOU to our conference sponsors:

Registration is now open! Click on the link below or scan the QR to be taken to the online registration form. Please fill out one registration form per person. Please indicate on the form if you or your loved one would like to participate in Respite care so we can forward that reservation to the participating providers who will be performing the intake registration. **Deadline for respite applications is July 1, 2026.**

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE

Or scan the QR code

QUESTIONS??
Contact: DANA DETWILER
ADRC Dementia Care Specialist
715-748-1988
dana.dew@adrc.taylor.wi.us

Make your caregivers feel more comfortable by taking or stop into the ADRC office for a registration packet. Conference registration ends July 31, 2026!

ADRC
Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources
8459 E Broadway Ave
Medford, WI
715-748-1481

Schedule for 8/12/26

8:00-8:30	Check in / Respite Tables / Respite Room opens
8:30-9:45	Breakfast & Registration
9:45-10:00	Living With Dementia Panel
10:00-11:00	Morning Workshops (Choose One: Hearing Preferences)
11:00-11:45	Lunch
11:45-12:00	Transition
12:00-1:00	Dr. Michele Ryan - High Octave Brain
1:00-1:15	Respite Break
1:15-2:15	Afternoon Workshops (Choose One: Driving Registration)
2:30-3:00	Angela Lunde, MA - The Empowered Path
3:00	Closing Comments

Fiscal Resources and Data Management

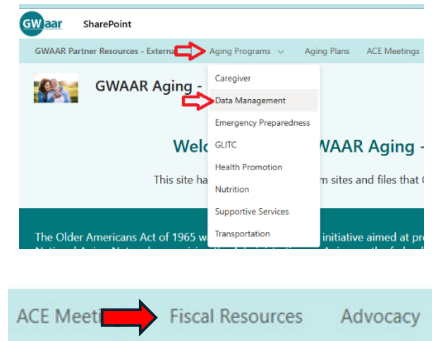
[Carrie Kroetz](#), Data Management and Technology Coordinator

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](#)



****May-June Claim Form**** - May-June Claim form will be posted by the end of the week. Current Funding Controls are still in place through June for any fully or partially state funded contracts. Just as a reminder, 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. Reminder that the claim forms are due on the 5th of each month, unless otherwise notified.

Just as a reminder, transfer requests have been backed out from contract dollars but have yet to be sent to the BADR until all budgets have been submitted and reviewed. Once we have received all information, the transfer amounts will be submitted to BADR.

At this time, we believe all waivers submitted will be approved. Once GWAAR has received all budgets final approval notices will be sent out.

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****IIID Match Requirement**** – During a training with ACL GWAAR was made aware, and confirmed with the BADR, that the match requirement for IIID is no longer in effect. However, continue to report Cash Match (Tax Levy/Tribal Funds) once contract dollars have been fully spent to show the true full cost of the service provided.

****AFCSP Mid-Year Report**** – The AFCSP Mid-Year Report is an additional tab on the claim form to be completed by August 5. For those Aging Units who have the AFCSP contract through GWAAR the mid-year report will automatically populate, with some additional information needed to be completed manually. For those Aging Units whose contract is with BADR, this form will be sent out for completion also to be due on August 5. Keep watch for an upcoming webinar regarding the completion of this report.

****Major Gift Recipients**** – If you are a Major Gift fund recipient just a reminder to review the instructions and complete the Major Gift Meal Reporting tab to report actual meals served and number of clients that were removed from the waitlist or those who had expanded meals provided.

****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.

Medicare Outreach and Assistance

[Stephanie Haas](#), Medicare Outreach Coordinator

Nice to Know

Reminder: Medicare Mingle

Wednesday, June 24 | 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/4fNHPvc>

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

View 2026 dates:

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

Medicare Mingle provides a chance for SHIP Counselors to:

- Connect with your peers
- Offer and receive support
- Seek advice
- Explore outreach strategies, what’s working and what’s not
- Discuss various Medicare topics



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

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

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

2026 MEDICARE MINGLE DATES:

Wednesday, February 25th	9:00am - 10:00am	Zoom Link
Wednesday, April 22nd	9:00am - 10:00am	Zoom Link
Wednesday, June 24th	9:00am - 10:00am	Zoom Link
Wednesday, August 26th	9:00am - 10:00am	Zoom Link
Wednesday, October 7th	9:00am - 10:00am	Zoom Link

JOIN STEPHANIE HAAS, MEDICARE OUTREACH COORDINATOR AT THE NEXT MEDICARE MINGLE!

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie at stephanie.haas@gwaar.org



This project was supported by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services with financial assistance from federal award number 905450004 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official GWAAR policy.

Nutrition

[Kristi Cooley](#), Nutrition Program Specialist

[Jean Lynch](#), Program Specialist Manager

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

Nice to Know

2026 Nutrition Program Cook's Training – Registration Now Open

Cook Strong. Serve Smart. Feed Well.

Join us this summer for the 2026 Nutrition Program Cook's Training, a hands-on learning opportunity designed specifically for Older Americans Act nutrition program kitchen staff. Spend the day with Chef Justin Johnson and the GWAAR Nutrition Team exploring practical kitchen solutions, food safety, menu quality, purchasing strategies, waste reduction, and nutrition updates.



Training topics include:

- Real-world food safety and kitchen best practices
- Purchasing and cost-saving strategies
- Waste reduction and workflow efficiency
- Senior meal quality considerations
- Nutrition guidelines updates
- Trustwell Recipe Database resources
- Recipe sharing and networking opportunities

Choose the session that works best for your program:

- July 23, 2026 – Madison College, Madison
- August 6, 2026 – Food + Farm Exploration Center, Plover

Registration deadline: July 15, 2026

Cost: \$25 per attendee

Complete the registration form: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2009068> (Word download)

View the agenda: <https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009067>

Additional location and parking information will be provided prior to the training.