GWaar

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## Advocacy

*Emily Petersen, Advocacy and Public Policy Director*

### *Need to Know*

**Reminder: Develop Your Advocacy Skills!**

The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) is hosting three Aging Advocacy 101 trainings this fall. Are you an older adult or family caregiver that wants to learn how to advocate? This is the perfect opportunity for you! These 90-minute, virtual trainings will teach the basics of advocacy, how to share your story, and explore ways to engage with legislators and policymakers. During the training, you will learn skills, practice them with others, and ask questions. Training dates are:

- Monday, November 16 from 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 2 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, December 5 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. ***CAREGIVER FOCUSED***

You only need to register for one of the training dates. Learn more and find the registration form at: gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-101

### *Nice to Know*

**Reminder: Training Opportunity: Reframe Aging**

*Wednesday, December 2, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.*

From the moment we are born, we are aging. During our lifespan, we will also experience disability, whether that be aging with a disability or aging into disability. The Wisconsin movement to reframe aging and disability affects all of us as we strive to tell a more accurate, whole, and healthy story of aging and disability.

National Center to Reframe Aging
LED BY THE GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
ReframingAging.org

REFRAMING AGING+DISABILITY WISCONSIN

*-continued-*

Working with the National Center to Reframe Aging (NCRA), we are bringing proven communication strategies to Wisconsin. These tools support our goal of eliminating ageism and ableism and creating a healthier Wisconsin where we all can thrive as we age and experience disability!

Register now for this free, virtual introductory training that will introduce evidence-based communication strategies to reframe aging: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tGp41ecNQLKMOqjwJh_p_g#/registration

**Reminder: Save the date: 2027 Aging Advocacy Day**

*Tuesday, May 11, 2027*

Join WAAN to celebrate the 10th Annual Aging Advocacy Day on Tuesday, May 11, 2027! Statewide advocates will gather in Madison on May 11 to learn key advocacy tools, network with others in their district, and meet with their legislators/legislative staff on aging policy priorities. We will meet at the Best Western Premier Park Hotel in the morning for meeting preparations and lunch before walking over to the State Capitol in the afternoon for our meetings. More details, including registration, coming later this year! Head to gwaar.org/aging-advocacy-day-2027 to learn more.

**Reminder: Your Medicaid Experience Needed!**

Four Medicaid-related boards, committees, and councils are looking for new members. These groups meet regularly to talk about Medicaid policies and services and include people from across the state who can share how Medicaid programs and services are working, what gaps exist, and how they can be fixed. Your advocacy to improve the Medicaid system is needed and valued.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is seeking applicants focused on Medicaid generally, people focused on the IRIS program, and people focused on the long-term care program. Applications are due November 6. Learn more and apply here: Medicaid: Boards, Committees, and Councils | Wisconsin Department of Health Services

**Learn more and apply at Medicaid: Boards, Committees, and Councils | Wisconsin Department of Health Services:** https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/bcc.htm

## Elder Abuse Programs

*Donna Rosner, Elder Abuse Program Specialist*

***Nice to Know***

**Regional training helps nutrition staff and volunteers learn about abuse**



In October, Donna Rosner GWAAR Elder Abuse Program Specialist provided Adult Protective Service/Red Flags of Abuse training to Nutrition site managers, staff, and volunteers. Donna travelled across the entire state to provide this training to all six Regions during the Fall Regional Nutrition trainings. Great discussion and interaction with those in attendance occurred enhancing nutrition sites awareness of elder abuse and red flags to look for.

## Family Caregiver Support

*Bryn Ceman, Caregiver Programs Specialist*

***Need to Know***

**Reminder: Wisconsin Caregiver Coordinators – Wisconsin Caregiver Coordinator Statewide Meeting**

*Wednesday, November 11 | 10:00–11:00 a.m.*

Your Work Is Making a Difference! Join us as we look back at Wisconsin's 2025 Family Caregiver Support Program results and celebrate the impact of your work across the state!

The agenda can be found here:
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009200

- 2025 Caregiver Program Highlights – Statewide PeerPlace data, caregiver needs, services provided, and customer satisfaction results.
- In Their Own Words – Hear what Wisconsin family caregivers are saying about the support they've received, including some wonderful recognition of local staff!
- Looking Ahead to 2027 – Updates from the Efficiency and Forms Workgroup and upcoming program improvements.

We hope you'll join us for an informative and encouraging hour celebrating the difference you make for Wisconsin families!

## Fiscal Resources and Data Management

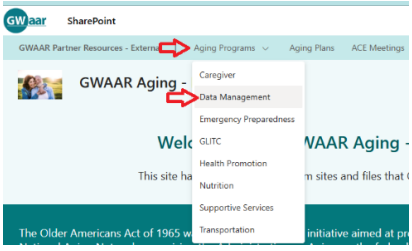
*Carrie Kroetz, Data Management and Technology Coordinator*

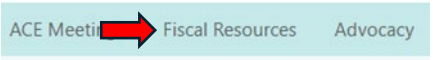
***Need to Know***

**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




***Fiscal Updates***

- The September Claim form is due November 5th, 2026.
- The Variance Report has been posted. It is recommended to use information through August to gain a preview over the next month of possible variances which could assist you to gain insight when using September data. The Variance Report will be due November 20th, 2026.
- The 2027 Preliminary Budget is due November 5th, 2026.

***PeerPlace Review and Cleanup***

GWAAR has posted an additional round of IIIB, D and C data entry errors. These errors must be addressed ASAP, and we will be reaching out to those still having issues. We will also continue to work through and share IIIE data entry errors and provide the information to users.

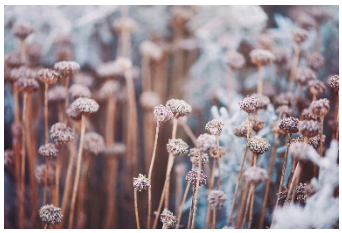
## Health Promotion

*Evan Ewing, Health Promotion Program Specialist*

***Need to Know***

**Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar-Save the Date: December 10**

*Thursday, December 10 | 10:00-11:00 a.m., optional networking 11:00-11:30 a.m.*



Our next Quarterly Health Promotion Webinar will take place on Thursday, December 10 from 10:00-11:00 a.m. This webinar will feature GWAAR updates, updates/information from the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA), and the main portion of the webinar will feature valuable case sharing from three aging units which include Barron County, Portage County, and Brown County.

The webinar is scheduled for an hour however, we will provide an additional 30 minutes for networking, sharing, questions, etc.

I'm looking forward to our final webinar of 2026!

***View the agenda:*** https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009207

## Guardianship Support Center

*Cherry Hill, WI Guardianship Support Center Attorney*

***Nice to Know***

**Latest issue of The Guardian available**

***Read the fall issue of The Guardian:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009206

The newsletter has links to upcoming events and articles, including an interesting update about litigation involving the timing of an annual protective placement review.

The Guardian is a quarterly newsletter published by the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources' (GWAAR) Wisconsin Guardianship Support Center (GSC). GSC provides information and assistance on issues related to guardianship, protective placement, advance directives, and more.



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.

The Guardian

**The Guardian** is a quarterly newsletter published by the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources' (GWAAR) Wisconsin Guardianship Support Center (GSC).

GSC provides information and assistance on issues related to powers of attorney, guardianship, patient's representative, protective placement, and more:

http://gwaar.org/gsc

**Email:**

guardian@gwaar.org

**Phone:**

855-409-9410

Subscriptions to *The Guardian* are free, just fill out our

SIGN UP FORM.


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GSC

## Nutrition

*Kristi Cooley, Nutrition Program Specialist*
*Jean Lynch, Program Specialist Manager*
*Pam VanKampen, Nutrition Program & Senior Center Specialist*

***Nice to Know***

**2027 Nutrition Education Monthly Handouts Available from GWAAR Nutrition Team**

2027 is rapidly approaching and we know your newsletter deadlines are a couple months out. We revised the handout format for 2027 based on your feedback from the Summer Nutrition Director Meetings. They are now 1 page to easily fit on the back of your menu, in your newsletter, etc. They include a simple recipe and tie to WHY certain foods and colors are on our plate and how they can positively influence health. We have 5 for next year posted so far and will be adding more before the end of the year. We have them in Portrait right now but will try and get them in landscape for those of you that prefer that format. You can download them at this link (Registered SharePoint users) **2027 Monthly Nutrition Ed Handouts**: https://bit.ly/48yuRMI

**Emergency Preparedness Shelf Stable Meal Options and More…**

We have updated the list of **emergency shelf stable meal options** in SharePoint (https://bit.ly/4ip0jl2). Please note this is informational and not all-inclusive. In order to count emergency meals as OAA meals, they have to meet the meal pattern or the nutrient analysis and be offered on a voluntary contribution basis. You will have to check with the vendors and your local dietitian to be sure the meals meet these requirements. We also have several handouts for participants, sample policies, training materials, participant handouts and more. Registered SharePoint users can check it out at **Emergency Preparedness**: https://bit.ly/4iUHeZA

**Reminder: New Nutrition Resources Available from ACL**

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has added new resources to its Dietary Guidelines for Americans/Dietary Reference Intakes (DGA/DRI) Toolkit to help senior nutrition programs plan healthy menus and meet Older Americans Act Title III-C nutrition requirements.

Nutrition and Aging Resource Center

New resources include guidance on menu creation, special dietary needs, protein and fiber, dairy requirements, nutrients of concern, seafood, sodium and saturated fat, and more. The Fact Sheets on the Nutrients of Concern can be used to fulfill your annual requirement to provide Nutrition Education on these.

***Explore ACL's DGA/DRI Toolkit and new nutrition resources:***

https://acl.gov/senior-nutrition/nutrition-guidelines?tab=dga-dri-toolkit

https://acl.gov/senior-nutrition/nutrition-guidelines?tab=fact-sheets2#fact-sheets2

## Tribal Technical Center

*Kassy Heard, TTAC Program Director*

***Nice to Know***

**November is Native American Heritage Month**

Looking for a way to help celebrate and recognize Native American Heritage Month in November? Check out the below resources including an activity sheet and placemat for your dining sites!

***Ways to Celebrate Native American Heritage Month:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009136

***Wisconsin Tribal Food Map Placemat:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2009137

***The Indigenous Food Pyramid Activity Sheet:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009138

***Recipe: Bison and Sweet Potato Shepherd's Pie:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewfile/id/2009139

***Recipe: Squash and Wild Rice:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009140

***Recipe: Three Sisters Harvest Soup:***
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2009141

