

## **Milwaukee County Commission on Aging Aging Services Director's Report - March 2024**

### **Administration**

- Completed signatory process for **2024 AAA contracts** (except OATS).
- Continued discussions on **AARP Livable Communities** Initiative.
- Facilitated **AAA survey and plan hearing process** with Advisory Council.
- Met with Department of Administrative Services to facilitate **capital budget request and monitoring** process.
- Attended Aging Symposium at St. John's on the Lake.

### **Advocacy**

- Attended 2024 USAging Annual Policy Briefing in Washington, D.C.
- Met with all Milwaukee County legislative office (Rep. Moore, Fitzgerald & Steil and Sen. Baldwin and Johnson) to discuss federal policy priorities.
- Participated in the Survival Coalition's Disability Advocacy Day in Madison. Met with Milwaukee County legislators to discuss state legislative priorities.
- Advocated in support of Caring for Caregivers Act and Affordable Connectivity Extension Program with federal legislators.
- Provided comment in response to Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Request for Information on Older Americans Act Reauthorization.
- As member of **WAAN Leadership Team**, continued **planning for spring in-district advocacy events** across Wisconsin in partnership with Aging and Disability Professional Association of Wisconsin (ADPAW).
- Developed plan to improve delivery of **OAA legal services and Elder Benefit Specialist** program, including Medicare advocacy and outreach.

### **Social Support Services**

- Facilitated **24 vendor presentations** to Service Delivery Committee.
- Discussed **SAGE Care initiative** with LGBT Center of Milwaukee.
- Hosted 7 **free docent-led tours** for older adults to the Mitchell Park Domes, Jewish Museum Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee County Zoo.
- Hosted a press conference and 2 workshops with DHHS Housing Services on new **Senior Home Repair program**.
- Launched **Employ MKE** and **Housing Repair for Falls Reduction** programs.
- Prepared the **Senior Center Programming in Milwaukee County Senior Centers** guidelines for posting as a Request for Proposal.

## Transportation

- Gained access to scheduling system for **Older Adult Transportation Service**.
- Met with the National Aging and Disability Transportation Center to discuss national models for **alternative on-demand transportation**.
- Continued national **recruitment** for ADS Transportation Coordinator.
- Proposed new budget model to TransDev for 2024 OATS contract.

## Senior Centers

- Met with Serving Older Adults to request contract extension for 2024.
- Supported Senior Centers Committee meeting at West Allis senior center.
- **Black History Month** celebration at Washington Park senior center.

## Nutrition Services

- Negotiated D&S (**Davians**) acquisition of Senior Dining program catering contract to cover all of Milwaukee County with exit of Aramark Corrections.
- Damascus Gate ended catering at Muslim Community Health Center.
- Negotiating to add new restaurant to **Dine Out** program.

## Health & Wellness

- Hosted **12 vaccination clinics** through the Aging and Disabilities Vaccination Collaborative. Sent letter from County Medical Advisor to Nursing Homes and senior residential facilities **encouraging new COVID booster shots**.
- Hosted **12 Health & Wellness workshops** including **Boost Your Brain and Memory, Steppin' On, and Walk with Ease**.
- Held discussions with **Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Living**, Wisconsin Office on Aging and other EBPP professionals on strategies to sustain expanded wellness programming at the conclusion of the ARPA funding.
- Expanding capacity of the **Walk With Ease** program. There are currently five new facilitators in training including partners from Aurora, Franklin Health Department, Luther Manor and two community volunteers.

## Caregiver Support

- Participated in **Open House for Froedtert** Medical Assistants, Nurses and Social Workers that provided the opportunity to ensure Froedtert staff are **referring patients for Caregiver Support, ILSP, and other ADS services**.
- Submitted 2023 AFCSP Fiscal Report to Wisconsin Dept of Health Services.
- So far in 2024, have enrolled **30 families into the Alzheimer's Family and Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP)** and **16 families into National Family**



**Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP).** These families will receive up to \$4,000.00 for support services, respite, and other supports for caregiving.

- Increased the capacity of Aging & Disabilities Services to meet the needs of family caregivers by **completing more than 70 support contacts or visits** with family/informal caregivers **in addition to those in AFCSP/NFCSP.**

## **Outreach**

- [Sign up for the Dementia Friendly Milwaukee Newsletter](#)
- [Sign up to receive the Milwaukee County ADRC Resource Report](#)
- [Sign up to receive Aging Advocacy Alerts](#)