



Milwaukee County Area Aging Plan 2025 Year-in-Review

Overview

After adoption of the 2025–2027 Area Aging Plan, the Milwaukee County Commission on Aging, Aging Advisory Council, and Aging Services staff worked on implementing projects in the following goal areas: Advocacy, Socialization and Social Supports, Senior Centers, Nutrition, Transportation, Heart Health and Wellness, Caregiver Support, and Local Goals.

Throughout this initial year of the plan period, we evaluated the feasibility of some of our goals. Some were easily achieved and needed to be re-developed mid-year. For example, our goal related to the Financial Navigation program was achieved by mid-year and was increased from that point forward. However, other goals experienced significant challenges. In the Caregiver Support area, ongoing delays in onboarding our new statewide data system, Peer Place, prevented progress on projects, such as evaluation of customer demographic data. Now that we are fully engaged in Peer Place, we anticipate progress on these goals in 2026.

Finally, this plan highlighted the ongoing need to work across Milwaukee County, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Aging Network to ensure we are developing the coordinated system of community-based services required by the Older Americans Act. Most, if not all, of our goals cannot be achieved by Aging Services alone and progress can only be made by engaging our entire system.

Highlights from the Year

- Success of senior dining program cooking demonstrations and Dine Out program.
- Completed deployment of blood pressure monitors at senior centers and programming related to heart health.
- Ongoing success of financial navigators program.
- Improved customer service in Older Adult Transportation Service with onboarding of new vendor.
- Milwaukee County AARP Age-Friendly Communities project fully engaged.

Challenges

- Implementation of new data system, Peer Place, caused delays to staff and vendors.
- Closure of McGovern Park Senior Center and uncertain future of senior center facilities.
- Outreach to older adults about availability of programs and services.

Next Steps in 2026

- Enhance Senior Companion program to onboard additional companions.
- Evaluate and test additional programming at Milwaukee County Senior Centers, including outside standard hours.
- Continue collaboration with transportation partners to increase access to services for older adults.
- Grow base of older adult advocates to expand influence on policy issues impacting older adults at every level.
- Engage the Aging Network in achieving the goals in the 2025–2027 Aging Area Plan.