

Milwaukee County Area Aging Plan Goal Progress: 2025 Quarter 3

Advocacy		
Goal	Measure	2025 Q3 Progress Report
<p>Expand our common cause on public policy issues with other nonpartisan older adult groups, such as labor unions, retiree groups, or the AARP, and develop intentional relationships with media partners to bring awareness to older adult advocacy issues and policy positions.</p>	<p>For each year of the plan period, we will partner with at least one older adult advocacy group to host twice per year advocacy events that bring together older adult residents, advocates, and Milwaukee County's local, state, and/or federal legislators. By 2027, we will work with media partners on three occasions to highlight the Advocacy Committee and/or Commission on Aging through featured articles, interviews with committee members, or by providing quotes in related articles.</p>	<p>Working with ADRC DCS team to plan an advocacy event focused on education and advocacy opportunities for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers.</p>
<p>Nurture and educate Seniors through hosting the Senior Leadership Program annually, instruct participants on effective communication with policymakers and leaders, and convene all Senior participants on a regular basis to carry advocacy messages to their legislators and policymakers</p>	<p>All participants in the Senior Leadership program demonstrate an increased understanding of the policymaking process and comfortability talking with policymakers and leaders. At least 50 percent engage in advocacy within six months of attending the program through attending WAAN Aging Advocacy Day, an In-District Aging Advocacy event, enrolling in a Commission committee/council, or another self-identified method.</p>	<p>One 2025 program graduate has been onboarded on to a COA council with others exploring options/opportunities.</p>

<p>Promote awareness of the Commission on Aging, Advocacy Committee, and advocacy opportunities and events through improved website accessibility and functionality.</p>	<p>By 2027, the Area Agency on Aging will have developed and implemented a full project plan and timeline for accessible website improvements for the Commission on Aging and Advocacy Committee, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.</p>	<p>Assigned a second member of the staff, Carrie Koss Vallejo, to work with Lorie O'Connor to manage website accessibility. Staff will receive regular updates on accessibility measures of the website as a whole, and specific items that need to be addressed.</p>
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