

Milwaukee County Area Aging Plan Goal Progress: 2026 Quarter 1

Advocacy		
Goal	Measure	2026 Q1 Progress Report
<p>Develop relationships with local, state, and federal legislators to impact positive policy change.</p>	<p>By 2027, we will have met with 80 percent of all Milwaukee County local, state, and federal legislators twice to discuss policy priorities adopted by the Advocacy Committee and Commission on Aging. These meetings can be individual meetings, at WAAN Aging Advocacy Day, at an In-District Event, or other Milwaukee County advocacy event.</p>	<p>Milwaukee County Aging staff and advocates attended Disability Advocacy Day and met with state legislators to advocate for older adults with disabilities, particularly around increased funding for Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports, FoodShare, and family caregivers. Milwaukee County Aging staff also attended the USAging Policy Briefing in Washington, DC and met with federal legislative offices to share FY27 funding priorities and support for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.</p>
<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>In January 2026, the Advocacy Committee was positively featured in a Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service article highlighting our Policy Priorities Listening Sessions and opportunities for continued engagement with Milwaukee County advocacy 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>New this year, Milwaukee County Aging staff developed a standalone webpage to advertise and highlight the Senior Leadership Program. This drew new engagement to the program and provided an opportunity to more clearly demonstrate the program particulars to interested parties.</p>