

MILWAUKEE COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Milwaukee County **Area Agency on Aging** supports a network of services for older adults that enhance their ability to lead healthy, meaningful, engaged, and dignified lives in their communities.

In 2025 we served 12,373 Milwaukee County older adults through Older Americans Act, Americorps Seniors, Specialized Transit, SHIP, and Wisconsin Elders Act programs and 1200 individuals through special community health outreach programs.

Administration & Outreach

- Completed, submitted and received approval for the **2025-27 Milwaukee County Area Aging Plan**.
- Supported development of an independent **Aging Advisory Council** to the Commission on Aging.
- Supported the **AARP Age Friendly Communities Steering Committee** for Milwaukee County.
- Contracted with **32 community service agencies** across **twenty-seven 27 programs** to provide a comprehensive, coordinated network of community-based services for older adults.
- Conducted **Request for Proposals** for Milwaukee County Senior Center Programming, Services to Older Adult Asylees and Refugees, and Older Americans Act Legal Services programs.
- Improved data collection and **transitioned to new PeerPlace** system required by Wisconsin DHS.
- Distributed **Social Support, Nutrition, and Caregiver brochures translated** into **twelve languages**.

Advocacy

- Attended **USAgging Policy Briefing** and met with Milwaukee County's Congressional delegation.
- Held in-person **Senior Leadership program** for **twelve new senior leaders** with state and federal legislative partners, aging advocacy leaders, the County Board, and Commission on Aging.
- Facilitated **Aging Advocacy Day** with the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network and supported seniors meeting with their state senators and representatives in Madison.
- Coordinated testimony for the **Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee hearing** on the state budget.
- Successfully advocated with the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network to update Wisconsin law for the **Alzheimer's Family and Caregiver Support Program** to align with the National Family Caregiver Support Program and **eliminate financial eligibility restrictions**.
- Hosted the **Are You Prepared end-of-life planning event** to assist older adults with long term care decision-making.
- Supported the **Older Americans Act reauthorization**, the **Strategic Framework for a National Plan on Aging**, and helped lead a statewide initiative to **Reframe Aging in Wisconsin**.

- Established new **Medicare Outreach Specialist** position and initiated in-person Medicare counseling and trained 5 new Medicare volunteers.

Social Support and Transportation Services

- Provided **75 older adults 533 hours of professional therapy** through the Late Life Counseling project.
- Launched the **Americorps Senior Companions** program matching **19 Senior Companions** with peers in need to provide companionship, rides, light housekeeping, and respite for caregivers.
- Connected **272 older adults** with trained financial advisors to receive one-on-one coaching to better manage their financial issues through the **Senior Financial Navigator Program**.
- Assisted **379 older adult homeowners** with **home and outdoor maintenance** projects through volunteers coordinated by ERAS Senior Network.
- Placed **seven new accessible vehicles** into service for the Older Adult Transportation Service which transitioned to a new provider, Z-Trip, which provided **8,000 more rides** in 2025.

Senior Nutrition

- Introduced the **Chik and Dip Food Truck** located at the Muslim Community and Health Center which ran Tuesday's in September and October and served 453 meals.
- Provided Nutrition Counseling to **lower malnutrition risk to 208 Meals on Wheels participants**.
- **Volunteers** at dining sites provided **23,967 hours** in support of the Senior Nutrition Program.
- **Spice up Your Meal** pilot launched at Washington senior center adding spice options at tables.
- Registered Dietitian hosted **5 cooking demonstrations** to participants at the County Owned Senior Centers.

Community Health & Wellness

- Administered **445 COVID vaccines, 301 flu vaccines, and 220 other vaccines** through the Aging and Disability Vaccination Collaborative at hosted 9 vaccine events and pop-up clinics.
- Hosted the **WISE Wellness Initiative for Senior Education** with Milwaukee County Behavioral Health.
- Community pharmacists administered **187 loneliness screens** to older patients through the **Rx Social Connect** project with MCW School of Pharmacy referring them to counseling and social programming.
- Established 5-session **Seniors Have Heart** education program with the American Heart Association, providing **blood pressure kiosks and take-out cuffs** at all Milwaukee County senior centers.

Caregiver Support

- Hosted **23 community events** providing **information and support to caregivers**.
- Through collaboration between Dementia Care Specialists and the Caregiver Support Team the first ever **Spanish-language Powerful tools for Caregivers** courses were offered in Milwaukee County.
- Provided **253 Caregiver Support grants** to assist family caregivers with respite, equipment, and case management, a **10% increase in households served** from 2024.
- Promoted Trualta, an **online caregiver support platform** which is free for Wisconsin caregivers.
- Assisted statewide implementation of the **National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers**, the **State Dementia Plan**, and co-chaired the **Milwaukee Coalition for African-American Caregivers**.

Senior Centers

- Supported DHHS, County Executive, Parks, Economic Development and Administrative Services regarding **MKE HUBS re-envisioning initiative**.
- **95% of older adult participants** surveyed stated the programs and activities at the Milwaukee County senior centers helped them **reduce isolation and increased their connections** to others.
- Completed **Washington Park senior center** renovation to include AV for the new **demonstration kitchen** and planned to implement the Flexible Facilities grant at **Clinton Rose senior center**.



310,966 Meals on Wheels delivered to home-bound older adults.

169,232 Meals served by take-out, at Dine-Out restaurants, and at congregate meal sites.



65,325 Rides provided through Older Adult Transportation Services (OATS), United Community Center & ERAS Volunteer Drivers.



146 Evidence Based Health Promotion Program sessions held with **468** participants.



5189 residents participated in County senior centers.



681 residents receive **5724** hours of legal representation through SeniorLAW. **572** received County EBS Medicare Counseling.



12,980 telephone reassurance calls; **52** life safety checks



7183 Blood Pressure Screenings provided.