

Support Family Caregivers

What's Happening?

- Wisconsin family caregivers need help. Family caregivers are the primary providers of long-term care...care that often goes beyond what they can do when they also have jobs or live far away, doing things like providing:
 - ♦ direct care
 - ♦ care management
 - ♦ transportation
 - ♦ medication management
 - ♦ scheduling medical and therapy appointments
 - ♦ assistance with benefit applications
- There are not enough providers to hire for assistance.

Why Does it Matter?

- Many family caregivers face financial burdens because they:
 - ♦ have to leave their jobs or reduce work hours;
 - ♦ have no paid leave benefits; and
 - ♦ spend, on average, \$7,000 out-of-pocket annually on expenses related to their caregiving role, and even more when caregiving from a distance.
- Family caregivers need breaks. Limited respite funding and lack of providers is making it difficult for caregivers to receive a break.
- Continual stress has a negative effect on the physical and mental health of both family caregivers and the people they care for.
- Aging family caregivers may need supports and services themselves to remain at home.
- It is difficult for those needing care who lack family caregivers or paid providers to stay in their own homes and communities.

Ask Legislators to:

- Support a family caregiver tax credit.
- Increase respite funding throughout Wisconsin.
- Expand Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) to:
 - ♦ include grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings; and
 - ♦ create an employee-funded FLMA insurance program to fund paid leave.

Contact WAAN

1414 MacArthur Rd., Suite A

Madison, WI 53714

(608) 243-5670

gwaar.org/waan