

DANE COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING BOARD LEGISLATIVE/ADVOCACY COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

The Legislative/Advocacy Committee submits position statements to the AAA Board for approval. Those positions establish the basis for action on public policy issues. Positions taken by the Legislative/Advocacy Committee shall reflect the approved Dane County Legislative Agenda. The Legislative/Advocacy Committee may also make recommendations to the AAA Board on evolving senior issues.

The AAA Board Chair shall appoint all members of the Legislative/Advocacy Committee. At-large member appointments must be approved by the full AAA Board. At least two (2) members of the committee shall be members of the AAA Board. All committee members shall be residents of Dane County and a majority of each committee shall be 60 years of age or older. Committee members shall serve three (3)-year terms. A Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by the Committee and have voting rights. (Note: Older adults are age 60+.). **A standing subcommittee of the Legislative/Advocacy Committee is the Diversity and Inclusion workgroup.**

The Legislative/Advocacy Committee shall:

1. Advocate for older adults, including those with disabilities, to enable them to maintain full potential, enhance quality of life, and affirm the dignity and value of older adults by supporting their choices for living in their own community.
2. **Ensures diversity of AAA Board and Committees to reflect the Aging population in Dane county as a whole (inclusive of communities of color and other identities/intersectionalities).**
3. Set priorities for action on issues that affect older adults of Dane County.
4. Research issues in developing priorities and taking positions.
5. Develop links with groups providing services or advocating for older adults and the constituency concerned about aging issues in Dane County, especially the Dane County Focal Points and other agencies serving older adults.
6. Follow deliberations of official bodies on positions taken by the Committee and report those actions to the aging constituency.
7. Advocate with respect to positions taken by the Committee with federal, state, county, and local bodies responsible for taking action on those positions by:
 - a. Communicating by letter, email, phone calls, public hearings, meetings, and personal contacts with public officials responsible for implementing the positions.
 - b. Urging the Elderly Advocacy Network (EAN) and other groups to act on positions of the Committee.
 - c. Providing educational opportunities for candidates for public office and public officials.
 - d. Reporting to the AAA Board.

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- e. Meeting with Dane County Lobbyist and others interested in legislative advocacy.
- 8. Participate with other groups to implement positions taken by the Committee.
- 9. Execute other related assignments as needed.
- 10. Review committee description annually.

Approved by Legislative/Advocacy Committee: 2/19/20, 1/27/21 & 1/26/22

Approved by AAA Board: 3/2/20, 3/1/21 & ???