## From GWAAR Newsletter 7/22/2025

## Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) - Aging Advocacy Events 2026

For 2026, in lieu of hosting Aging Advocacy Day in May at the State Capitol, the WAAN will be working with its core members to host a series of in-district events, virtual sessions to prepare constituents for legislative visits and discussions on priority aging issues, and a call-in/email campaign targeting state legislators.

Historically, WAAN held an in-person advocacy day each year in May (Older Americans Month), in Madison. **In odd-numbered years**, the state legislature is actively working on legislation, including the biennial state budget, so this is a great time to bring advocates into the State Capitol to meet with their legislators and staff.

**In even-numbered years,** by May, the state legislature is focused on committee work and legislators are spending the bulk of their time back home in their district. In 2026, the legislature's last general session Floor period is scheduled for March 17-19.

To expand on our efforts to build and strengthen relationships between constituents and their elected officials, WAAN's focus will be on in-district meetings for 2026 to provide opportunities for citizens to connect with their state legislators in their local communities.

WAAN members will offer training, templates, and other support for in-district meeting hosts. In celebration of Older Americans Month, an online advocacy campaign connecting advocates with their state legislators, will also be scheduled in May.