

wisconsin specific organizations, resources & dementia related topics

A flourishing community is one that practices hospitality and acceptance of all persons, regardless of physical or mental status. – John McFadden

Aging and Disability Resource Centers

Wisconsin Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) provide information and assistance on long-term care for adults regardless of age or income; available services in specific areas, such as home health care; and instructions on how to sign up for programs such as Meals on Wheels or Family Care.

Family caregivers may call the ADRC with questions on how to provide care for their loved ones. ADRC professionals are available by telephone, via email or through in-home visits to discuss options for care.

ADRC benefit specialists are available to answer questions about eligibility for Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security or other public programs, as well as questions about benefit changes, and can provide assistance with applications.

The Dementia Care Specialist Program

In 2015, the Dementia Care Specialist Program is available at 16 ADRCs across 26 counties in Wisconsin. Dementia care specialists provide dementia-specific support and services. The dementia care specialists support the ADRC to be dementia capable and provide guidance and leadership to dementiafriendly community initiatives and assistance in helping individuals stay in their homes longer.

A dementia-capable ADRC is able to provide memory screens for individuals who may be concerned about memory or increased confusion, is knowledgeable about all the resources and programs available in the community for people with dementia and their caregivers, and can help individuals and families plan for future needs.

Anyone interested in creating or joining a dementia-friendly community effort may contact the dementia care specialist. The specialist can provide assistance in developing dementiafriendly coalitions in communities and in the use of Wisconsin's *Building Dementia-Friendly Communities Tool Kit*.

Information on contacting a dementia care specialist in a specific Wisconsin county is available at: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ adrc/dementia-care-specialist-program.htm

Memory Clinics (Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute)

The Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute Affiliated Dementia Diagnostic Clinics are located around the state and offer a comprehensive evaluation of memory and other cognitive concerns. An individual should first contact their physician to discuss any concerns regarding memory loss or any of the warning signs of dementia, such as increasing confusion, changes in behaviors or difficulty with everyday activities. To seek a second opinion, individuals may contact one of the memory clinics in their area. To find a memory clinic, click on www.wai.wisc.edu/clinics/cliniclist.html.

Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association works on a global, national and local level to enhance care and support for all those affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The Alzheimer's Association has a 24/7 help line: **1-800-272-3900**. The Association provides support groups, a dementia caregiver center, an online navigator who offers step-by-step guidance and customized actions plans, education programs and clinical studies.

The Alzheimer's Association raises awareness and funds for care support and research, advocates for policy resources, and educates and engages decision makers. Safety service options provided through the Alzheimer's Association include: Comfort Zone, Medic Alert & Safety Services, and the Alzheimer's Association Safe Return program.



For additional information on any of these services, please call

- 1-800-272-3900 or contact a local chapter at:
- www.alz.org (for local chapter information)
- www.alz.org/sewi (for the Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter)
- www.alz.org/scwisc (for the South Central Wisconsin Chapter, serving Columbia, Dane, Green, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland, Rock and Sauk counties)
- www.alz.org/gwwi (for the Greater Wisconsin Chapter, serving Chippewa Valley, Fox Valley, Green Bay, La Crosse, Rhinelander, Spooner, Superior and Wausau)

The Alzheimer's and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin

The Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin (ADAW) can provide support and assistance to individuals navigating the course of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. ADAW guides individuals with dementia and their caregivers by offering personal consultations, education and access to resources and advocacy.

ADAW provides programs and services in south central Wisconsin, and resources and advocacy on dementia-related issues.

ADAW promotes Alzheimer's disease research and helps people access cognitive testing for early detection of memory disorders, clinical evaluations, treatment options and research opportunities. ADAW serves as a partner along the journey for someone who suffers from memory loss or cares for someone with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

For information on any of these resources go to: www.alzwisc.org (Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin)

Educational Opportunities

Educational opportunities are available for individuals, families and communities to receive information on the disease process of Alzheimer's and other dementias, including the progressive disease stages and behaviors, and to build skills to support individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Additional information and resources:

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- 67 -