

# GOVERNOR EVERS' 2021-23 BIENNIAL BUDGET

## Supporting Wisconsin's Family Caregivers

The vast majority of caregivers in Wisconsin are family members. These family caregivers are the backbone of the care system for our most vulnerable, and they are in need of more support. The Governor's Task Force on Caregiving has recommended multiple policy proposals to family caregivers in Wisconsin, and the budget makes significant investments based on those recommendations.

### AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS (ADRCs) (\$7 MILLION)

County aging and disability resource centers and Tribal aging and disability resource services provide referrals to services for older adults and Wisconsinites living with disabilities. This increase will expand services for family caregivers, and provide additional funding to Tribes.

### DEMENTIA CARE SPECIALISTS (\$3.5 MILLION)

Currently 56 of 72 Wisconsin counties have access to a dementia care specialist that supports caregivers and people with dementia living at home. The budget expands access to all counties and Tribes, with 18 more specialists at ADRCs and seven more Tribal specialists.

### ALZHEIMER'S FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM (\$1 MILLION)

The budget would increase funding and expand eligibility for the Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program. This program helps caregivers of family members with irreversible dementia by providing up to \$4,000 to pay for respite care, in-home help, adult day care, transportation, home delivered meals, chair lifts, and other services.

### FAMILY AND GUARDIAN TRAINING (\$250,000)

The budget establishes mandatory initial training requirements for guardians, and provides funding for an organization with expertise in state guardianship law to develop, administer and conduct the required guardian training in a plain language, Web-based, on-line training module.

### CAREGIVER ASSESSMENT TOOL (\$60,000)

By assessing their health, stress levels, skills, and support systems in a tailored assessment, we can help family caregivers identify the supports they need to meet their challenges. This pilot program will provide evidence-based care management support for family caregivers.

### CAREGIVER TAX CREDIT (\$200 MILLION)

In addition to these provisions at DHS, the budget invests \$200 million through a Caregiving Tax Credit of up to \$500 through the Department of Revenue, as recommended by the Governor's Task Force on Caregiving.

**For more information on all of Governor Evers' proposed investments in Wisconsin's health, visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/budget](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/budget)**