

Aging/ADRC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes November 5, 2025

The Aging/ADRC Advisory Committee met via Teams or in person in Conference rooms A/B of the Community Services Building, 221 W. Seminary St., Richland Center.

Members present: David Scribbins, Kevin Koester, Deanna Louis and Linda Symons
Members absent: Larry Engel and Diane Cox
HHS Staff present: Roxanne Klubertanz-Gerber and Linda Batten
Others present: None

- 1. Call Meeting to Order: Aging/ADRC Advisory Meeting** was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by David Scribbins.
- 2. Approval of Posting and Agenda:** Kevin Koester made a motion to approve the agenda; Linda Symons seconded. Motion carried.
- 3. Approval of October 1, 2025 Aging/ADRC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:** Kevin Koester made a motion to approve the October 1, 2025, Aging/ADRC Advisory Committee meeting minutes; Linda Symons seconded. Motion Carried
- 4. Citizen Comments:**
 - None
- 5. New Committee member letter(s) of interest:**
 - Roxanne reported to the board, that she has not received any letters of interest.
- 6. Education: Caregiver Month**
 - Roxanne reported that November is Caregiver Month.
 - Roxanne stated next Friday (November 14) there will be a Caregiver Boot Camp at the Community Center from 9:30 to 3:00. This Boot Camp will include a Dementia Live session and other educational information.
 - Roxanne reported there is a Caregiver Support group which is very well attended
- 7. Program Updates: Caregiver Program Updates**
 - Roxanne reported that NFCSP (National Family Caregiver Support Program) funding comes from GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Area on Aging Resources). Some examples on what this funding can be used for are: consumable supplies, respite, support groups, overnight respite and more. The Caregiver or Care Recipient need to be over 60, or a relative grandparent who is over 55 caring for a grandchild.
 - Roxanne reported that AFCSP (Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program) is for someone who is caring for someone with a dementia diagnosis. Funding for this program comes from the state of Wisconsin.
 - Roxanne said that 10 years ago we received \$3500 in funding. In 2026 the funding is over \$13,000.
 - Some examples of what this funding can be used for are: respite services, adaptive equipment, educational programs, Project Lifesaver, and more.
 - Roxanne let the committee know that there is no longer a means testing or asset limit for this program.
 - Roxanne reported that between the 2 programs, 23 families have been served this year.
 - Roxanne reviewed the Caregiver stipend program. This is used when a neighbor or family member can be reimbursed for caring for someone who is eligible. This was started due to the ongoing caregiver shortage. All caregivers must pass a caregiver background check.
- 8. Advocacy: Bill AB 410: Healthy Aging**
 - Discussion was held on the letter that was sent to the legislature. Roxanne received responses from Representative Tony Kurtz and Senator Sarah Keyeski.
 - Discussion was held on the proposed: Patient Representative in SB 578/AB598 (Next of Kin law). This legislation is being pushed through the legislature quickly and there are many concerns related to how the bill is set up. Hospitals are huge proponents of this. This bill would allow a hospital to appoint someone if a person is incapacitated. (This person could even make financial decisions for a person). Roxanne reviewed that there is already a Temporary Guardianship law in Wisconsin to address situations like this.
 - Roxanne reviewed a comparison of Power of Attorney for Health Care and the Patient Representative proposal.

- Roxanne discussed a sign-on letter that was drafted by GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Area on Aging) opposing this legislation. She went through the highlights for the committee and requested the committee support the letter.
- Deanna Louis made a motion for the committee to support this letter; Kevin Koester seconded. Motion carried.

9. ADRC Update:

- Roxanne informed the committee that it was Medicare open enrollment time. This is the time of year that people need to look at their Medicare Part D plan and see if their plans still covering their medication and if the price has changed significantly. They can also look at their supplement plans and Advantage plans. Roxanne reported that Quartz is leaving the county and there are numerous Part D plans also leaving the county. It has also been reported that there have been increased issues with the Part D Medicare Plan Finder.
- Roxanne reported in October, transportation took people to Oakwood/Riverside and tomorrow a Nutrition bus will go to Fennimore for Nutrition training. Transportation is also taking people to Rotary Lights, both in La Crosse and Richland Center, in December.
- Roxanne told the board that there have been a greater number of calls to the ADRC Specialists related to Medicare changes and the current government shut down.
- Roxanne informed the committee there has been a lot of systems changes that this year the ADRC has had to learn, which has been challenging for staff.
- Roxanne was happy to announce that the first Men's Shed will be held on 3/11/2026 in Loyd. Phil Nee will be the speaker and lunch will be supplied by the Loyd Community Center.
- Roxanne reported that a Power of Attorney for Healthcare session will be held on 12/3 at Health and Human Services. She said that these sessions will be held quarterly next year.

10. ADRC Budget Review:

- Roxanne reviewed the October Budget. All programs, except Transportation, are on budget. (Transportation is only 1% over.) Roxanne is currently projecting a surplus for all programs except Aging.

11. Reports from Aging and Disability Organizations:

- None

12. Items for next meeting:

- Sheila Troxel will be scheduled for a meeting in the Spring.

13. Schedule next Committee Meeting: December 3, 2025 at 1:00 pm in person or Teams

14. Adjourn: Kevin Koester made a motion to adjourn; Linda Symons seconded. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Batten
ADRC of Eagle Country - Richland Center Office