

# Investing in Long-Term Care

## Governor Evers' 2025-27 Budget

Whether it's a relative, a friend, or a neighbor, we all know an older adult who has made a difference in our lives and in our communities. After giving so much, they deserve to live in a state that respects, supports, and protects them as they age. Governor Evers' budget **advances the safety and dignity of older adults and people with disabilities in Wisconsin**, wherever they live and whatever supports they need.

*Wisconsinites should be able to get the health care they need when they need it.*



GOVERNOR  
**TONY EVERS**

### Long-Term Care: Budget At-a-Glance

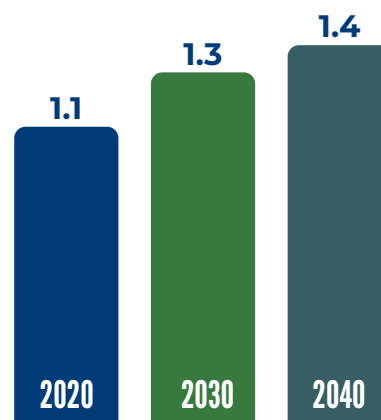
- **Personal Care Services:** \$43.8 million
- **Supplemental Security Income Boost:** \$42.7 million
- **Meals on Wheels:** \$21.7 million
- **Complex Patient Pilot:** \$15.0 million
- **WisCaregiver Careers:** \$8.7 million
- **Aging and Disability Resource Centers:** \$8.6 million
- **Adult Protective Services:** \$7.7 million
- **Nursing Home Bed Access:** \$1.7 million
- **Geropsychiatric Treatment:** \$1.2 million
- **Alzheimer's Family Supports and Education:** \$1.1 million
- **Falls Prevention:** \$0.9 million
- **Senior Farmer's Market:** \$0.5 million
- **Ensure Access to Children's Long-Term Supports:** No Budgetary Impact

### A Look at the Numbers

- 10% of older adults in Wisconsin **face the threat of hunger**.
- The **long-term care worker vacancy rate** was 28% in 2022.
- The **poverty rate** for working-age **people with disabilities** is nearly 25%.

### Wisconsinites over the age of 65

(in millions)



Source: Department of Administration

### Supporting People in Their Homes

Personal care services support people with bathing, eating, dressing, or other activities. This can help older adults continue living in their homes and communities. The budget **increases pay for personal care workers by \$43.8 million** to ensure access to these services.



## Keeping Seniors out of Poverty

The Supplemental Security Income program provides vital payments to older adults and people with disabilities with little or no income. However, state payment amounts have not changed since 1994. The budget provides **\$42.7 million for a long-overdue boost to payments** in this program.

## Reducing Hunger

No senior in Wisconsin should have to worry about where their next meal will come from. The budget provides **\$21.7 million for home-delivered meals**, also known as “meals on wheels,” so fewer older adults in our state struggle with hunger.



## Easing Transitions Out of the Hospital

Some people face multiple health challenges at the same time, such as heart or lung disease, mental illness, obesity, or dementia. This makes their transition from the hospital to other places, such as a nursing home, particularly hard. The budget provides **\$15.0 million** to fund a “complex patient pilot program” to find new and creative ways **to make this transition as easy and quick as possible**.

## Growing the Workforce

Wisconsin faces a critical shortage of long-term care workers. The WisCaregiver Careers Program has helped train and employ more than 3,600 certified nurse aides. The budget **increases support for this program by \$8.7 million**.

## Connecting People to Services

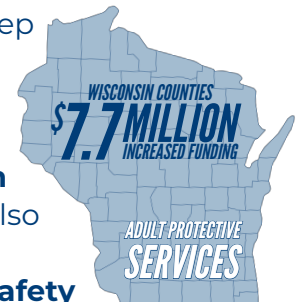


Aging and Disability Resource Centers, or ADRCs, are one-stop shops to **connect older adults and**

**people with disabilities to services** and provide them with information on complex programs. As Wisconsin’s population ages, the need for these services increase. The budget provides **\$8.6 million to keep up with this need**.

## Protecting the Most Vulnerable

Older adults and people with disabilities can be at increased risk for abuse and exploitation. Adult protective services units in counties play a vital role in **defending the most vulnerable in our communities**. To keep up with increasing reports of abuse or neglect, the budget **increases funding to counties by \$7.7 million** for this work. The budget also provides an additional **\$1.5 million** to DHS to **ensure safety for seniors** in assisted living facilities.



Learn more about the '25-27 budget [dhs.wi.gov/budget](https://dhs.wi.gov/budget)