

Waukesha County Nutrition Coalition Minutes

April 25, 2023

Attendance: Lisa Topp & Sarah Kuehl (intern)- Waukesha County WIC; Ellen Kind- Waukesha Head Start/Early Head Start; Katy Maas & Jill Herz- Waukesha County UW-Madison Extension FoodWise; Courtney Klepp- Aging and Disability Resource Center; Judy Rintelman- Eagle's Wing Free Clinic; Soraya Bericoto- ProHealth Care- Wisconsin Well Woman Program; Maria Milic (intern)- Eras Senior Network; Rosa Zibell- Waukesha Free Clinic; Chloe Bingenheimer & Elizabeth Sheehan- Community Smiles Dental; Michael Egly & Gregory Bedell- Food Pantry of Waukesha County; Shanna Krause- La Casa de Esperanza; Cheryl Isabell- Covering Wisconsin.

Covering Wisconsin- Presenter: Cheryl Isabell

See Covering Wisconsin powerpoint slides for more info: attached to email

What is Covering Wisconsin? Covering Wisconsin is a nonprofit that helps people find and use their health insurance coverage. The program has been in place for 20 years. Covering Wisconsin is provided through the UW-Madison Extension Health & Well-Being division. Health Insurance Navigators are licensed federally and statewide, helping people locate providers and enroll in health insurance plans. Navigator services are free. They can help you use your plan, help you with billing or coverage problems, and help find community programs to help pay for insurance or medical care. Please see PowerPoint slides to know who your regional enrollment network manager is (pg. 15). The Latino enrollment network located in Dane County is available statewide. Services in Hmong will be available very soon.

What is the Medicaid Unwinding Period? Medicaid agencies will replace temporary policies established during the COVID-19 emergency. Wisconsin's unwinding goals are to successfully return to routine operations, and keep Wisconsinites covered. It has been more than 3 years since anyone has had to complete or process a renewal. April 1 was the end date in WI. Everyone is receiving a letter. If they are not covered anymore due to ineligibility, will determine if they can get enrolled in a plan that works for them.

What to do: (1) Update your contact info and get notifications, (2) Find your renewal date (live as of 2/19 in ACCESS) (3) Act during 45-day renewal. Renew as close to the deadline as possible; that way you aren't losing any coverage. Get free help by calling 211 or visiting [wiscovered.com](https://www.wiscovered.com). Search for "MyACCESS Wisconsin" in the Google Play or Apple App Store to download the app. You can renew via the app. If your renewal date isn't within 45-day window, good idea to sign up for "push notifications" in the app so you get a reminder. If you are not comfortable with an app, make sure to watch for renewal letters in the mail.

Your agency can reach out to request outreach materials and get them personalized. Order customized promotional materials with your logo and contact information by sending a request to tina.marshalek@wisc.edu.

Spread the word! You can follow Covering WI, WI Dept of Health Services, WI Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, and Healthcare.gov social media sites and share/repost their social media posts.

How to Find Enrollment Assistance

Find & Schedule Online: www.CoveringWI.org/enroll (Spanish: www.CoveringWI.org/enrollspanish)

Call: Covering Wisconsin (608-261-1455); Spanish: Centro Hispano (608-255-3018)

Chat and Text: Online at www.CoveringWI.org (Spanish: www.CoveringWI.org/enrollspanish) ; Text COVER to 920-507-5295 (Spanish: Text “SEGURO”)

WCNC Updates:

Thank you for everyone responding to the survey. It is helpful to see the strong response from people about the benefits of the community updates and information sharing through the coalition. And responses related to suggestions for future meeting topics will help with planning future meetings. Here are the results overview: https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-o2yWuTozj0oJOC0_2BqYnUFg_3D_3D/

Agency Updates:

Aging & Disability Resource Center- Courtney Klepp: We are in the process of contacting sites to distribute the Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Vouchers. Starting June 1st, we will be out in the community at designated sites to distribute to eligible individuals, no longer limited to a single household. Each booklet now has seven-\$5 vouchers for a total of \$35. Vouchers can only be used at participating farm stands at participating farmers markets, so it’s up to the individual vendor whether they accept the voucher. Vouchers can be redeemed for fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs, and fruit and vegetable seeds.

Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Michael Egly, Gregory Bedell:

- We will be participating in a virtual training on disability awareness through Independence First on Thursday, May 4th from 4:00-5:30 PM. We are opening the opportunity to our volunteers and community partners. Here is the sign up form to get the training link - <https://forms.gle/fMuAWFsWRtMn22JD9>
- We are a registration and distribution partner of the Backpack Coalition. Sign up for next year’s school supplies and backpacks will open in mid-May and end by June 19th. Distribution will be in August.
- For referrals, questions, and assistance with food delivery, contact Alex Vieth, Client Services Associate, at alexandria@waukeshafoodpantry.org or 262-522-2372.
- Stamp Out Hunger, the national letter carriers food drive is Saturday, May 13. You can donate by leaving a bag by your mailbox for your postal worker to pickup.
- See flyer attached to this email for services.
- The food pantry is seeing an uptick in visits lately.

Waukesha County WIC- Lisa Topp:

- Beginning May 1, participants must buy the WIC-formula type and size listed on their benefits. Other formulas are no longer WIC-approved.
- Farmers market nutrition program checks will be available for eligible participants starting June 1. Each eligible participant will receive \$30 for use at local farmers markets and stands through the summer months.
- WIC is beginning preparations to return to in-person/hybrid services which will begin mid August. Participants may be eligible for virtual services if anthropometric and bloodwork information is provided from a medical provider.
- Anyone interested in flyers for the Pumpsplotting app, currently being offered free thanks to the Waukesha County Breastfeeding Coalition, can email Lisa for printed copies or a file to print on your own.

Sussex Outreach Services- Jennifer Waltz: Sussex Outreach has experienced an increase in pantry usage, seeing some clients come back that we haven't seen in some time. Working with a Food Share expert, who visits us once a month, has been very helpful. Several months ago, we returned to our normal operations inside while also offering clothing and household items to clients. SOS is looking forward to the Post Office Food Drive in a couple of weeks. This summer, we have various programs to help feed children along with our school supplies and new school shoes programs.

UW-Madison Extension FoodWise Program- Jill Herz & Katy Maas: We are excited to have a full team, as of late February. Our full staff is 4 educators (one bilingual), one teaching coordinator (Katy), and one administrator (Jill). Our new educators are working on training and starting up new series of lessons as they are trained. The school year is wrapping up, so we are finishing up in-school series in the Waukesha School district & La Casa de Esperanza, and looking forward to starting summertime youth series in collaboration with Parks & Recreation, summer garden/nutrition series with youth and adults, and also series of nutrition lessons & StrongBodies (strength-training series with seniors). We are always looking for new opportunities to teach our Eating Smart & Being Active (ESBA) program for parents of young children. Will be starting a new ESBA series at the library this summer and we will share the flyer to the WCNC list.

La Casa de Esperanza- Shanna Krause: We are currently enrolling for our Early Head Start Program at La Casa de Esperanza. However, we are filling up fast so if you know any families that are prenatal to age 3 please pass the word so that they are able to get a spot before they are all filled.

2023 Meetings: February, April, June, August, October

Next Meeting: June 27, 2023 at 9AM

Child & Family Centers of Excellence

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