American Rescue Plan Act: Social Isolation and Loneliness and Livable Communities

**Community Coalitions**

Last Update: 6/30/25

| **Organization and Contact**  Social Isolation and Loneliness,  Livable Communities, Combined | **Coalition Description**  Continuing: ★ Partially Continuing: 🞆 |
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| **Social Isolation and Loneliness Coalitions** | |
| **ADRC of Barron and Rusk Counties, Barron County Office,** Trisha Witham, [Trisha.witham@co.barron.wi.us](mailto:Trisha.witham@co.barron.wi.us) | ★**NEW** (project focused): Our coalition emerged with a focused mission: establishing the Barron County Men's Shed. Our approach was deliberate and strategic, beginning with a core group of organizational representatives who were aligned when the grant was initially developed. Our coalition's composition expanded thoughtfully, with additional organizational representatives joining the initial core group. Critically, we also directly recruited four older adult men from the community, ensuring that the voices and experiences of our target population were integral to the initiative's design and implementation. |
| **ADRC of Bayfield County,** Elizabeth Skulan, [Elizabeth.Skulan@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Skulan@bayfieldcounty.wi.gov) | ★**NEW:** The People to People (P2P) Bayfield Coalition began as a direct effort of this grant. The P2P Coalition centered their actions on its newly created mission statement: “People to People Coalition reduces social isolation and loneliness by connecting people for healthier communities in Bayfield County.” |
| **ADRC of Pierce County,** Morgan Tamminga, [morgan.tamminga@co.pierce.wi.us](mailto:morgan.tamminga@co.pierce.wi.us) | ★**EXISTING:** Our grant coalition was built off of a coalition that was already in existence prior to the grant, The St.Croix Valley Dementia Friendly Coalition. This coalition will continue on as it did prior to the grant, but with a new found focus on targeting social isolation and loneliness in not only adults with Dementia but all community members in the St.Croix valley |
| **ADRC of Portage County Senior Center,** Kathleen Giblin, [giblink@co.portage.wi.gov](mailto:giblink@co.portage.wi.gov) | ★**NEW:** The Rural Community Task Force is a group of HSBC’s, Non-Profits, helping organizations, government agencies, volunteer organizations, community funders, and stakeholders who recognize that social isolation is a thread that weaves through many parts of our community. We work toward a multifaceted and multipronged approach to reducing isolation especially in rural areas of our community. The group meets to discuss specific areas of concern and to find ways to join forces to tackle complex issues and build community connections. |
| **ADRC of Waukesha County,** Lisa Bittman, [lbittman@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:lbittman@waukeshacounty.gov) | ★**NEW:** Over the past six months, we have laid a solid foundation for the Coalition, emphasizing collaboration and collective impact. In April and May of 2025, our focus will shift to developing action plans that address our top strategic priorities. Currently, 26 out of our 36 registered members are actively participating across three dedicated action teams. |
| **Aging and Disability Resource Center of Eagle Country Juneau County Office,** Gina Laack, [glaack@juneaucountywi.gov](mailto:glaack@juneaucountywi.gov) | ★**NEW:** The Juneau County Social Isolation and Loneliness Committee is a collaborative effort of local community partners with a shared commitment to supporting individuals who are most vulnerable to social isolation in our rural communities. |
| **Do Good Door County,** Cynthia Germain, [dogooddoorcounty@gmail.com](mailto:dogooddoorcounty@gmail.com) | ★**EXISTING:** The Aging Coalition of Door County (ACDC) was formed to address the needs of older adults across the county. It includes diverse stakeholders—nonprofits, healthcare entities, civic groups, and individuals—focused on supporting aging in place, enhancing social connections, and creating livable communities. Monthly meetings, project subcommittees, and outreach initiatives have shaped its evolution. Web: <https://dogooddoorcounty.org/who-we-are/> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AgingCoalitionofDoorCounty/> |
| **Greater Watertown Health Foundation,** Susan Olson, [solson@watertownhealthfoundation.com](mailto:solson@watertownhealthfoundation.com) | ★**NEW:** the members of the **Coalition for Older Adults** are all part of the coordinated care meeting, and they will hold space on the agenda for social connection as it is so core to the work that all individuals who serve older adults do. All members of the **Coalition for Those Living w/ Disabilities** would like to continue meeting on a quarterly basis. This group finds great value in coming together to discuss how to best serve their clients. Before this grant there had not been any sort of group or gathering for those serving individuals living with disabilities in Dodge and Jefferson Co and they have enjoyed collaborating. <https://watertownhealthfoundation.com/ConnectedCommunities.html> |
| **Hmong American Center, Inc. (HAC),** Bee Lor, [beelor@hmongamericancenter.org](mailto:beelor@hmongamericancenter.org) | To increase collaboration HAC joined the Social Isolation and Loneliness coalition started by **Opportunity Development Centers** operating in the same geographic area. |
| **Journey21, Inc.,** Caty Bulgrin, [cbulgrin@journey21.org](mailto:cbulgrin@journey21.org) | ★**EXISTING:** Journey21 collaborates with their partners for job sites, community service projects, resource fairs, activities, educational and community events and outings for their participants. They also joined the **Social Connectedness Coalition of Waukesha County**. |
| **Marshfield Area United Way,** Sarah Chy, [sarah@marshfieldareaunitedway.org](mailto:sarah@marshfieldareaunitedway.org) | ★**NEW:** Marshfield Area United Way’s Retiree Coalition helps community members aged 55+ build heartfelt, meaningful connections with peers through volunteer opportunities that provide a sense of purpose and help those in need in the community. This model built a coalition of older adults who were seeking social connection. |
| **Milwaukee County Area Agency on Aging (AAA),** Kaisa Kerrigan, [Kaisa.Kerrigan@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:Kaisa.Kerrigan@milwaukeecountywi.gov) | 🞆**NEW** (project focused): Members of this coalition were directly involved in the implementation of the Social Isolation and Loneliness Reduction Pharmacy Project. Several project partners have expressed interest in continuing to address Social Isolation and Loneliness and provide resources to the community. As such, an informal coalition of interested organizations will remain in communication to explore ways to continue providing resources and support to the community. |
| **Mother of Perpetual Help Congregation,** Fr. Matthew Perumpil, [frmatthew@mphwa.org](mailto:frmatthew@mphwa.org) | ★**NEW** (project focused): The coalition included Parishes, Senior Centers & Health Organizations in West Allis, Wauwatosa and New Berlin, WI with a focus on the Mother of Perpetual Help's project, replication and expansion to non-parishioners. |
| **Neighborhood House Community Center,** Laura Gundlach, [laura@neighborhoodhousemadison.org](mailto:laura@neighborhoodhousemadison.org) | 🞆**NEW:** Neighborhood House created and led a new coalition of service providers focused on older adults and individuals with disabilities in Madison’s Greenbush/Triangle neighborhoods. The coalition’s goal was to improve coordination, reduce redundancy, and increase access to social and health supports through collective impact. It included community centers, housing partners, faith communities, and health service providers. |
| **NeighborWorks Green Bay,** Julie Filapek, [julief@nwgreenbay.org](mailto:julief@nwgreenbay.org) | ★**EXISTING:** The coalition pre-existed this grant period with a focus specifically on older adult technology learning. They expanded focus to social isolation for older adults and people with disabilities more broadly, though efforts that ultimately served people across all demographics across the Village of Denmark. The coalition saw its role as a jump start to high visibility social connection activities, with an expectation that Denmark Connects would transition to a more locally-led organization. |
| **New Bridge Madison,** Jim Krueger, [jimk@newbridgemadison.org](mailto:jimk@newbridgemadison.org) | ★**NEW:** This coalition is a collaborative initiative led by NewBridge Madison, under the coordination of the Social Isolation Project Manager, and aims to build inclusive solutions through diverse partnerships. The coalition brings together government agencies, nonprofits, healthcare providers, and local leaders to share resources, align strategies, and promote sustainable change. This report provides a comprehensive summary of the coalition's formation, milestones, partnerships, community engagement efforts, and future direction |
| **Oneida County Health Department,** Cami Buchmann, [cbuchmann@oneidacountywi.gov](mailto:cbuchmann@oneidacountywi.gov) | ★**NEW:** The Social Connections Coalition is dedicated to reducing social isolation and loneliness by fostering connected communities, empowering individuals to build meaningful relationships and promoting integration for emotional well-being for all |
| **Opportunity Development Centers,** Kate Norby, [knorby@odcinc.com](mailto:knorby@odcinc.com) | ★**NEW:** We established a robust, cross-sector coalition composed of representatives from healthcare, senior centers, advocacy groups, faith-based organizations, local government agencies, and other community stakeholders. Together, the coalition assessed community strengths, needs, and priorities through a combination of collaborative dialogue, data analysis, and community input. This process informed the creation of a shared vision, and actionable plans designed to address identified gaps while building upon existing assets and resources. |
| **Pointters Community Initiatives,** Olademji Tomori, [tomori@pointters.org](mailto:tomori@pointters.org) | ★**NEW:** The Social Connection Coalition was created to build a community where individuals are connected, valued, and empowered through support, engagement, and holistic care. It consists of nonprofits, public agencies, and memory and aging-focused organizations collaborating on social isolation and community-building interventions across Fox Valley and surrounding counties. |
| **Southwest Suburban Health Department,** Becca Marszalkowski, [rmarszalkowski@swshdwi.gov](mailto:rmarszalkowski@swshdwi.gov) | ★**EXISTING:** Mental and Behavioral Health County Health Improvement Plant (CHIP) Action Team |
| **UW Extension Kewaunee County,** Renee Koenig, [renee.koenig@wisc.edu](mailto:renee.koenig@wisc.edu) | ★**EXISTING:** The Kewaunee County Aging Friendly coalition was formed in 2022 to focus on aging related issues including social isolation in Kewaunee County with membership from individuals and organizations that serve the county. |
| **Wauwatosa Health Department,** Carmen Pangilinan, [cpangilinan@wauwatosa.net](mailto:cpangilinan@wauwatosa.net) | ★**EXISTING:** Our coalition is made up of community members and city staff who are interested in expanding opportunities for social connection in Wauwatosa. We formed before the grant as part of Wauwatosa’s five-year Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). As a result of the grant, our group has gained new members and new energy. The CHIP goes through 2027, so the group will continue through 2027 and hopefully beyond. |
| **Livable Communities** | |
| **Access to Independence,** Jason Beloungy, [jasonb@accesstoind.org](mailto:jasonb@accesstoind.org) | ★**NEW** (project focused): The Coalition members were focused on the accessibility projects in downtown Madison. |
| **Greendale Public Health Department,** Megan Mermal, [mmermal@greendale.org](mailto:mmermal@greendale.org) | ★**NEW** (project focused): We anticipate that the Livable Communities Coalition will evolve by transitioning into a steering committee, connected to the Health Department CHIP. This shift will provide oversight, coordination, and alignment with AARP’s 8 Domains of Livability while serving as a central hub for documentation and collaboration. |
| **Kenosha Achievement Center (KAC),** Chris Weyker, [cweyker@thekac.com](mailto:cweyker@thekac.com) | ★**NEW:** Livable Kenosha is a coalition of members brought together around the issue of housing input for seniors and people with disabilities. The Coalition members will stay active disseminating the housing information and will identify other areas to uplift the needs and voices of individuals with disabilities and elders. (<https://www.thekac.com/livable-kenosha/>) |
| **indigo,** Emma Duchrow, [emma@indigowi.org](mailto:emma@indigowi.org) | 🞆**NEW:** Our coalition was based on creating Livable Communities with attention to public accessibility to promote inclusion of all abilities and ages. It spanned 8 counties across rural Northwestern Wisconsin and was comprised of service providers from each county. Organizations included ADRCs, the regional planning commission, and groups related to aging and disability as well as education and outdoor recreation. |
| **Midstate Independent Living Choices, Inc. (MILC),** Don Wigington, [dwigington@milc-inc.org](mailto:dwigington@milc-inc.org) | 🞆**NEW** (project focused): Our initiative had established a goal to enhance existing coalitions and share the knowledge of our project. Our coalition goal was to have our core group of experts join existing coalitions to talk about our project, promote awareness of the resources available and if appropriate become a permanent member of coalitions to ensure sustainability of our work. |
| **Opportunity Development Centers,** Josiah Growth, [jgroth@odcinc.com](mailto:jgroth@odcinc.com) | 🞆**EXISTING:** The Digital Equity Solutions Team (DEST) Coalition was formed to tackle social isolation and digital equity through access to technology and training in our 4-county region. It included diverse members from education, business, nonprofit, and health sectors. As a subset of DEST, this coalition focused on creating a template where corporate technology could be repurposed and reused for social isolation goals. This template is available for other regions within the state. |
| **Wauwatosa Health Department,** Carmen Pangilinan, [cpangilinan@wauwatosa.net](mailto:cpangilinan@wauwatosa.net) | ★**EXISTING:** Our coalition consists of members of the Health Department’s Age-Friendly and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Housing Action Team and the members of the city’s Joint Housing Coalition. These groups came together to work collaboratively on shared interests and goals. |
| **Western Dairyland** **Economic Opportunity Council**, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Kristin Walukas, [kristin.walukas@wdeoc.org](mailto:kristin.walukas@wdeoc.org) | 🞆**NEW** (project focused): This project has been great for building relationships between the four organizations involved (WDEOC, ADRC, Whitehall School District, and Inclusa) resulting in future opportunities to work and serve the community together. |
| **Combined: Social Isolation and Loneliness and Livable Communities** | |
| **Eau Claire Health Department,** Janessa VandenBerge, [janessa.vandenberge@eauclairecounty.gov](mailto:janessa.vandenberge@eauclairecounty.gov) | ★**EXISTING:** The Eau Claire Health Alliance (ECHA) is a coalition working to promote the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities of Eau Claire County. The ECHA is the result of a merger of two long-standing coalitions in Eau Claire County: Eau Claire Healthy Communities and the Alliance for Substance Misuse Prevention. Over 250 partners from across the county convene to advance data-driven goals that address health priorities identified by Eau Claire County residents. The ECHA priority areas relating to these grants are Mental Health & Community Connectedness and Nutrition & Physical Activity. |
| **Long Cheng Senior Center LLC,** Maiyoua Thao, [nfo@longchengsc.com](mailto:nfo@longchengsc.com) | ★**NEW:** The **Northeastern Wisconsin Senior Connections Coalition** is a collaborative initiative focused on enhancing social connections, reducing isolation, and promoting livable communities for seniors, especially seniors of color. By uniting community organizations, senior service providers, and advocates, the coalition addresses the unique cultural and social needs of aging populations in the region. <https://www.longchengsc.com/northeast-wisconsin-senior-connections-coalition/> |
| **Taylor County Health Department,** Melissa Moore, [melissa.moore@co.taylor.wi.us](mailto:melissa.moore@co.taylor.wi.us) | ★**EXISTING:** The Supporting Healthy Aging coalition was born out of the ‘getting to know your community’ series in May 2023, where we first pulled together organizations working with our seniors for our first supporting aging meeting in June 2023. Over the course of a year this group continued to grow, adopted a mission/vision, and established a brand identity with official logo in spring 2024. |