



# Dane County Area Agency on Aging

## Board of Directors

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8 March 2017

The Honorable Ron Johnson, U.S. Senator  
328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Johnson:

The Dane County Area Agency on Aging of Board of Directors is concerned about program modifications or decrease in funding of the Older American Act. They will break the promise made to older adults by our government which has responsibility to provide services and resources to all older adults. We urge you to continue viability of this promise.

The Board of Directors of the Dane County Area Agency on Agency opposes reduction of Older American Act funding. In fact it highly endorses increase in funding because the need for vital services increases exponentially with the burgeoning of senior adult populations, especially the frail elderly and those 85 years of age and older.

In Dane County during 2016, Older Americans Act funding provided:

- 4,451 seniors 101,110 congregate meals and 1,329 seniors 122,277 home-delivered meals
- 16,709 rides for seniors to attend medical appointments using 1,144 volunteers
- 2,235 Elder Benefit Specialist legal service hours to 122 senior adult clients
- Culturally-specific programming to 294 African American and Latinx senior adults
- \$44,221 in National Family Caregiver Support Program grants to 156 caregivers for respite care and supplemental services

Without services and programs cited above, many Wisconsin older adults would have been unable to remain living in their own homes and contribute to the economy of our state. Many would have been forced to live in long-term care facilities at the expense of taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Bill Clausius, Chair

cc: The Honorable Scott Walker, Governor, State of Wisconsin  
Dane County Board of Supervisors  
The Honorable Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive  
Ms. Lynn Green, Director, Dane County Department of Human Services