

# Falls Free® Wisconsin Localizing Efforts to Address Falls (LEAF)

## Mini-Grant Request for Proposals (RFP)



Release of RFP	July 21, 2025	Reporting Period Oct 1, 2025 to Apr 30, 2026
Q&A Session	August 5, 2025 @ 2PM (Recorded)	
Proposals Due	September 23, 2025 by 11:59PM	

### Overview:

As part of a statewide strategy to reduce falls among older adults, the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA), convener of the Falls Free Wisconsin Coalition, is thrilled to announce a new mini-grant funding opportunity to support local falls prevention efforts across Wisconsin.

Through the LEAF initiative, WIHA will provide funding to empower communities in developing or enhancing impactful falls prevention programs or projects. This initiative prioritizes reaching populations of the greatest social and economic need and supports the creation, revitalization, or sustainment of local falls prevention coalitions—because strong local partnerships are key to keeping our communities safe, active, and thriving.

Whether you're looking to launch a new initiative or strengthen an existing one, this is your chance to make a lasting difference in the lives of older adults in your community.

### Who Can Apply:

Funding is available to non-profit, community-based organizations including aging units and Aging & Disability Resource Centers, public safety agencies, public health departments, and other public or community-based organizations or coalitions in Wisconsin.

### Funding Amounts & WIHA Support:

WIHA will fund a maximum of 6 projects in the amount of up to \$5,000 each. **Funded projects must be completed by April 30, 2026.** Grantees are expected to participate in a kick-off meeting and final check-in meeting over the course of the grant period. A final narrative and budget report will be due on June 30, 2026.

### Allowable Expenses:

Funds may be used for personnel (not to exceed 25% of award), materials, promotion, supplies, and incentives (not to exceed 10% of award amount - not direct cash). Funds **may not** be used to supplant existing funding, for food, capital expenditures, or lobbying.

# Background

Falls are a leading cause of injury and death among older adults—and a major contributor to emergency room visits, hospital stays, and nursing home admissions. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 1 in 4 adults aged 65 and older falls each year, putting their health and independence at risk.

But the impact doesn't stop there. Falls affect families, caregivers, EMS providers, healthcare systems, and entire communities. In fact, in Wisconsin, falls are the #1 reason for emergency medical services (EMS) injury responses (Wisconsin Department of Health Services, 2022).

Here's the good news: Falls are not a normal part of aging—and most can be prevented. With the right strategies and investment in proven prevention efforts, we can reduce risk, support independence, and improve quality of life for older adults across the state.

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## Target Population

Projects must support falls prevention in older adults which may also include their families and caregivers. Preference will be given to projects that address the needs of populations of the greatest social and economic need and include sustainability measures or lead to next steps for preventing falls in your community.

## Proposal Requirements

- Applicant organization and project lead contact information.
- Project description to include 1) overview; 2) goals; 3) activities; 4) evaluation and; 5) sustainability measures.
- Project budget (see template provided).

## Examples of Eligible Projects

- Develop or revitalize a local falls and/or injury prevention coalition (pro tip: use the Falls Free Wisconsin's [Coalition Quick Guide](#)). Consider a focus on populations of the greatest social and economic need (ex: a local falls coalition focusing on tribal elders).
- Launch a falls prevention event or initiative - find ideas [here](#).
- Implement or expand evidence-based falls prevention programs - such as WIHA's [Stepping On](#) or [Pisando Fuerte](#) programs - or physical activity programs. Find examples [here](#).
- Develop in-home falls prevention initiatives to address home hazards such as clutter and hoarding and home safety modifications.
- Develop an initiative to engage pharmacies for medication reviews.
- Develop a falls referral program with public safety or healthcare to connect people who fall with interventions. Find strategies [here](#).
- Develop a local mobility or accessibility project to understand and address community needs (e.g. walkability survey with recommendations).
- And more - be creative!

# To Apply

Submit your application (online only) - no later than 11:59PM on Tuesday, September 23, 2025. Submit [here](#).

Register for the Q&A session (August 5 at 2:00PM) [here](#).

**Questions:** Contact Suzanne Morley at [suzanne.morley@wihealthyaging.org](mailto:suzanne.morley@wihealthyaging.org) or 608-852-0813.

# LEAF Budget

List and briefly describe your expected expenses in as much detail as you can in the table below. **Complete and attach the project budget section when submitting your proposal via the online form.** Funds **may not** be used to supplant existing funding, for food, capital expenses, or lobbying. Maximum budget of \$5,000. *Add rows as needed.*

Category	Item/Description	Amount
<b>Personnel</b> - not to exceed 25% of project award. Please list individual(s), title, and agency.		
<b>Travel</b> - not to exceed 10% of project award.		
<b>Materials and supplies</b>		
<b>Promotion</b>		
<b>Incentives</b> - cannot be direct cash		
<b>Total</b>		