



Interprofessional Community Dementia Caregiving Mini-Course Opportunity for Caregivers of People with Dementia



UW Center for Interprofessional
Practice and Education
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Background Information:

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and the University of Wisconsin Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education (UW CIPE) are working together to offer a mini-course for future clinicians. Participating students in the mini-course are in Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant, Social Work, and other health professions. Students will learn about the special considerations and healthcare needs of family caregivers of people with dementia while recognizing the effects of caregiving on the caregiver's health, enabling them to incorporate this knowledge into their future professional practice.

Dates:

February 17th-March 10th 2026, 5-7PM T/TH

Caregiver Time Commitment:

There will be two 1-hour meetings held virtually and a 30-60 minutes **debrief with the student team.** (Up to 3 hours total)

Payment:

An honorarium of **\$50** is offered to the caregiver upon completion of this mini-course and submission of a W-9 tax form to UW-Madison. Caregivers are welcome to waive payment if preferred, rather than filling out the W-9 tax form. *For confidentiality, the W-9 tax form is sent directly to UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Accountant Joeann Evans at jlevans4@wisc.edu.*



To join, contact Kathleen Smith with the WI DHS at Kathleen.Smith@dhs.wisconsin.gov
or contact your Dementia Care Specialist.

Register by January 1st, 2026

Additional Information:



Meeting details for each of the 3 meetings:

1. First Virtual Home Visit - Caregiver Interview to include: 3-5 students, CIPE program facilitator, DCS, family caregiver
2. Second Virtual Home Visit - Student team to present resources to the caregiver: 3-5 students, CIPE program facilitator, DCS, family caregiver
3. Debrief meeting to critique the process and make recommendations

How this experience helps students to learn:



Teams of 3-5 students will interview a family caregiver and a dementia care specialist to learn about the unique experience of providing care for a loved one with dementia. Next, the students will meet with an ADRC specialist to learn about local resources and to design a resource plan appropriate for the caregiver. And finally, the students will present the resource plan to the caregiver and the DCS. This course is designed for caregivers to teach future health care clinicians about the unique stressors, challenges and joys of being a family caregiver and to provide feedback on appropriate local resources that the team presents.

The Process:

- Students receive class-based education on the special needs of family caregivers from facilitators at the UW Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education.
- Dementia Care Specialists (DCS) connect a caregiver volunteer to the class project.
- DCS meet the students and group facilitators and are oriented to the class: 1-2 hours
- In their first virtual home visit, the interprofessional student groups (3-5 students from differing professions) meet the caregiver via online meeting with DCS present. Students interview caregiver who tells their story up to the point just before they were connected to the ADRC. Approximately 1 hour.
- The students take what they learned about the caregiver and their (at the time) unmet needs and call the ADRC to find out what is available to their client when making a plan of care.
- In their second virtual home visit, the student team meets with the caregiver and DCS to review the care plan and hear from the caregiver about what did happen, what was more helpful, and what they wish they had received from the clinicians to support them. Approximately 1 hour.
- DCS, facilitator, caregiver and students meet to debrief. They review the course, discuss best practices and make suggestions. Approximately 1 hour.

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the WI DHS at**
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