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**Opportunities, Events, Grants, Training and Other Resources**

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## Opportunities

### **2019 TOP RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES NOMINATION**

Wisconsin Rural Partners

Deadline: February 1, 2019

The Top Rural Development Initiatives recognizes those communities and organizations that have made a positive impact on their rural area through collaboration and sheer grit. Overcoming challenges to make good things happen in rural areas is difficult. We want to share success stories with other rural areas and the world so we can learn from one another and prove that, although many rural areas are struggling, there are places that are having success, which creates hope for all of us.

Details and Nomination form [here](#).

### **Best of the Midwest Media Fest**

Wisconsin Community Media

Deadline is January 22, 2019

Have you produced a program that has been premiered on a public, education, or government access channel in 2018? OR, has your program premiered on a website managed by a community media center? Are you a low-power FM radio producer? Has a program of yours premiered in 2018?

The Fest is open to producers in a nine-state area: Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. More information [here](#).

### **ADA Coordinators Network Forming**

Calling all municipal, county and state ADA Coordinators or management responsible for overseeing ADA compliance within a community. Several Wisconsin Title II (Public Entities) ADA Coordinators would like to form a network to provide free flow of information for communities in Wisconsin regarding ADA compliance and provide a forum for ADA Coordinators to advance the principles of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact [adacoordinator@milwaukee.gov](mailto:adacoordinator@milwaukee.gov) if you wish to help develop and participate in a Wisconsin ADA Coordinators' Network.

## Events

### **SAVE THE DATE! Welcoming Women in Government**

January 9, 2019, 4:30- 6:30 p.m.

Husch Blackwell offices on the Square in Madison

The League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Wisconsin Women in Government (WWIG) and Husch Blackwell are co-hosting the 2nd biennial Welcoming Women in Government reception. Legislators, legislative staff, the Governor and his administration are invited to join local government officials and staff in saluting women in government. Join us! Space is limited. Please register [here](#).

### **Mayors Innovation Project Winter Policy Meeting**

January 25-26, 2019

Washington, DC

Topics include:

- Valuing Women's Health
- Climate Change & Transportation Emissions: Thinking Beyond Electric Vehicles
- Community Engagement: New Models, Old Rules or Old Models, New Rules?
- Building a Strong, Diverse, and Resilient Local Business Community

More information and registration [here](#).

### **Powering Local Leadership: A Summit on Energy & Resilience**

Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters

January 24-25, 2019

Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, Appleton

The Wisconsin Academy and partners will convene a two-day, regional summit to share practical resources and explore emerging issues in local energy planning and resilience in Wisconsin communities. Local government leaders and representatives from organizations actively serving as resources to these communities are invited to attend one or both days of the summit. A limited number of travel scholarships are available. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **Toward One Wisconsin Inclusivity Conference**

Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service

April 11-12, 2019, Hyatt Regency, Milwaukee

A Conference on Overcoming Barriers to Inclusion will bring together individuals and organizations from multiple sectors across Wisconsin to address the most persistent barriers to inclusion, what is working, and what is promising on the horizon. Details and Registration [here](#).

## Grants

### [PeopleForBikes Grants for Community Bike Program](#)

**DEADLINE:** January 18, 2019

PeopleForBikes is accepting Letters of Interest for its Community Grant Program. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to important and influential projects that leverage federal funding to build momentum for bicycling in communities across the United States. Projects can include bike paths and rail trails, as well as mountain bike trails, bike parks, BMX facilities, and large-scale bicycle advocacy initiatives. See more information [here](#).

### [Environment Protection Agency Environmental Justice Small Grants Program](#)

**Deadline:** February 15, 2019

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) Program provides funding directly to community-based organizations for projects that help residents of underserved communities understand and address local environmental and public health issues. "Underserved community" refers to a community with environmental justice concerns and/or vulnerable populations, including minority, low income, rural, tribal, indigenous, and homeless populations that may be disproportionately impacted by environmental harms and risks. Find out more [here](#).

### [Arts Midwest Touring Fund Grants](#)

**Deadline:** April 24, 2019

Arts Midwest Touring Fund grants are made directly to organizations. Funded engagements must feature a public performance and community activity, and reach an audience with limited access to the performing arts with the goal of fostering exchange between professional touring artists and Midwest communities. Learn more [here](#).

### [USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Programs](#)

USDA Rural Development's [Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program](#) provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas to create stronger, more sustainable communities. \$4 billion in funds are available for investment. See the link above for FAQs, guidelines and timetables.

## Training

### **Rural Housing and Transportation Webinar**

December 18, 2018 -- 1:00 p.m.

AARP Wisconsin, Responsible Real Estate Developers & Investors and Transportation America will host a 90-minute technical assistance webinar for Wisconsin's key growth, development, and advocacy stakeholders. Register [here](#).

### ***Live Work & Play is Dead: Innovative Ways to Attract, Retain & Engage Talent***

UW-Local Extension Local Government Center teleconference

January 17, 2019 -- 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Cost: \$20

Local governments need to be savvy and intentional about how they connect with the next generation. This presenter will cover ten ways to engage Millennials and Gen Z including successful talent attraction case studies and strategies to create connection in communities. *Presenter: Jeremy Fojut, NEWaukee*. Questions: Local Government Center 608-262-9960 or [website](#).

### ***Local Government Issues, Challenges and Strategies***

The University of Wisconsin – Extension Local Government Center in collaboration with the Wisconsin Towns Association, the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Counties Association is hosting a series titled "Local Government Issues, Challenges and Strategies". Two programs remain in the series:

January 31: Repurposing our Downtowns: Strategies that Work

February 28: Farm Economic Trends and their Effects on Farmers & Local Communities

More information is [here](#).

### **Local Opportunity Zone Workshop**

WEDA

February 6, 2019

Milwaukee Hilton City Center

For more information, please contact Brian Doudna at Wisconsin Economic Development Association (608-255-5666 or [bdoudna@weda.org](mailto:bdoudna@weda.org)) or visit the [website](#).

### **Leadership Training including the Certified Public Manager Program**

UW-Madison, Continuing Studies - Ongoing

Many one-day workshops are available, some of which are provided at reduced rates for government employees. More information is provided [here](#).

### **Training DVD: 2018 Board of Review**

UW-Extension Local Government Center

Cost: \$35, extra materials \$10 each

The video presents a dramatization of a complete statutory two-hour meeting of a Board of Review in the fictional village of Kayso, Wisconsin. At the end of each scene, a panel of local government experts discusses what happened and reviews important points about Board of Review procedures. Written materials include exam, affidavit, and filing instructions for certification. For information on ordering, visit <http://lgc.uwex.edu>.

## Other Resources

### **FOCUS #25: Uprooted: Evictions in Wisconsin**

#### Wisconsin Policy Forum

Rental housing evictions are pervasive in some Wisconsin communities, destabilizing families and neighborhoods. Research finds eviction rates vary widely across the state and are particularly concentrated in southeast Wisconsin, where an effort to address the problem has begun in Milwaukee. Read the Policy Forum's latest report [here](#).

### **League's #WIMuniExpertise Webinars**

Thanks to the City of Madison for proposing this series of webinars. If you have staff with expertise that would benefit other municipalities, please contact Gail Sumi, League Member Engagement and Communications Director at [gsumi@lwm-info.org](mailto:gsumi@lwm-info.org) to propose additional topics.

**Protected Classes** - January 10 – 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

City of Madison Department of Civil Rights

**Racial Equity** - February 14 - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

City of Madison Department of Civil Rights

**Affirmative Action** - March 14 - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

City of Madison Department of Civil Rights

For details on upcoming webinars and to watch the archived "Service Animals and the Law," click [here](#). Please note that you can click on the "question" button as you watch the archived webinar and an email will be sent to Madison staff for a response.

### **G.R.E.A.T. Program**

#### University of Wisconsin-Extension Local Government Center

The Graphing Revenues, Expenditures and Taxes Program contains statewide databases for all counties, municipalities and towns from 1987-2016 (the most current data available.) This tool automatically maps out revenue and expenditure information in easy-to-use graphs. Learn more [here](#).

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[www.lwm-info.org](http://www.lwm-info.org)

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