

Adult Long-Term Care & Paid Workforce & Family Caregivers

Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Legislature's budget (Signed into Law by Gov. July 5)
Create an employee-funded state insurance fund to offer paid Family and Medical Leave for part time and full-time employees	Provides paid Family Medical leave for up to 12 weeks paid leave to all self-employed workers and part- and full-time employees working for employers who have more than 50 employees. Payroll contributions would be shared equally by employers and employees. <i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Not included
Expand who can use Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) to include grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings.	Expands who can use Family and Medical Leave to grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings. Removes the reference to child, allowing workers to use FMLA for people of any age. <i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Not included
Establish a family caregiving tax credit.	Annual \$500 Family Caregiver tax credit	Not included
Increase respite funding	Increase of \$200K annually.	Not included
Track authorized hours against hours of service delivered	Not Included	Included as part of MCO reporting requirement
Ensure all increases to Direct Service Professional and Personal Care rates cover workers across all HCBS waiver programs (CLTS, IRIS, Family Care)	Not included. Direct Care rate increases (see below) apply to Family Care (not IRIS or CLTS)	Not included. Direct Care rate increases (see below) apply to Family Care (not IRIS or CLTS)
Ensure rates for services for children with significant complex needs follow them from the CLTS system to adult LTC.	Not included	Not included
Increase funding for Adult Protective Services	Increase of \$9.9 M over biennium for APS	\$1M each year of biennium
Increase the capacity for the Guardianship Support Center	Increase of \$100K to base funding	Not included

Funding for Guardian Training improvements	Increase of \$63K	Not included
Expand Elder Abuse Helpline to people with disabilities of all ages	\$250K in second year of biennium to continue elder abuse hotline	\$135,000K in second year of biennium to non-governmental organization to continue hotline
Funding for DOJ to use their expanded Medicaid Fraud Control Units (MFCUs) authority	Not included	Not included
Plan for closure of state Developmental Disability Centers and make sure people can be supported in their own homes in the community.	Not included	Not included
Increase oversight for 1-2 bed AFH's	Increases funding for DHS's Division of Quality Assurance to allow for a 25% investigation rate to respond to safety complaints, including complaints involving 1-2 bed Adult Family Homes. Increases staffing for the Office of Caregiver Quality to support misconduct investigation and background check program.	Directs DHS to increase fees for assisted living facilities and mental health clinics to cover cost of staff DHS deems appropriate for the purpose. Provides \$135K in first year and \$168K second year for 2 four-year project positions
(Supported by Survival)	Increase base funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (\$2.5 M year 1, 5M year 2)	Provides \$2.5 M (year 1) and \$5M (year 2) to increase ADRC base allocations
(Supported by Survival)	Provides a 0.5 FTE position to provide caregiver support services in every county.	Not included
(Supported by Survival)	Support the ongoing costs of the tribal Aging and Disability Resource Specialists (ADRS)	Not included
(Supported by Survival)	Build a centralized ADRC website and database	Not included

Paid long-term care workforce

Survival Coalition Ask

Governor's budget

Joint Finance Committee budget

Increase rates for all HCBS direct services by 25%	Rate increases for paid Direct Service Professionals in Family Care. (\$88.8M over the biennium) Rate increases for personal care workers. (\$88.8M over the biennium)	Rate increases for Direct Service Professionals in Family Care (\$40M over the biennium) Rate increases for personal care workers (\$40M over the biennium) (\$4.3% increase)
Continue 5% HCBS provider rate increase	Sustained 5% rate increase for Home- and Community-Based Services for Family Care.	Sustained 5% rate increase for Home- and Community-Based Services for Family Care through June 2025.
Fund Wisconsin statewide HCBS direct care professional registry to include career ladders and portable certifications	\$627,600 GPR to fund the Wisconsin Personal Caregiver Workforce Careers Program \$101,500 GPR to fund the WisCaregiver Career IT platform \$100,000 to fund continued licensure and maintenance of a system to coordinate certification status work between DHS and MCOs	Not included.
Continue funding of WI Department of Children and Families Partner Up Grant program	\$11.2 M each year of biennium	Not included

Children's Long Term Care

Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Joint Finance Committee budget
Provide "sum sufficient" funding end the wait list for children with disabilities needing long-term supports and services	Not included	Not included
Funding for statewide Disability Resource Center for Children and Families	Not included	Not included

Education^{1*}

Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Joint Finance Committee budget
Increase special education reimbursement rate to 90% for public schools	Raises the special education reimbursement rate from 31% to 60% and makes the appropriation sum sufficient so school districts are guaranteed to recoup 60% of the funding they spent on students with disabilities.	Maintains sum certain funding. Increases amount of funding to raise special education reimbursement rate from 31.5% to 33.3%.
Expand categorical aid funding for school mental health staff to \$30 million/year and expand to include school counselors, psychologists, and nurses as well as social workers.	Increase of \$36M (\$18M each year of biennium) and broadens the types of school mental health staff that funds can be used for.	Not included
Increase community and school collaborative mental health grants from \$10 to \$15 million	Proposed instead a new comprehensive school mental health aid of \$235.8M (\$117.9M each year of biennium)	Increase of \$30M (\$15M each year of biennium) to a total of \$50M (\$25M each year of biennium)
Transition readiness: Increase the transition readiness grant from \$1.5 million to \$4.5 million annually	Not included	Not included
Increase accountability for private SNSP schools to a level comparable to that required of public schools by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including a complaint and enforcement mechanism and robust data collection.	Not included	Not included
Limit the special needs scholarships to currently-enrolled students with no new admissions.	Limit the special needs scholarships to currently enrolled students with no new admissions.	Not included

¹ Separate legislation ([2023 Wisconsin Act 11](#)) increases the amount of state money for private school vouchers, as much as \$12,368 per student (a33% increase). The amount of money private schools get for each student is sum sufficient, meaning public dollars will cover actual costs. In contrast, public school funding is sum-certain, meaning a set amount of public dollars will be spent even if actual costs exceed the budgeted amount. Existing state law gradually increases the number of students using public dollars that choice schools may enroll each year, with enrollment limits expiring in 2026. After 2026 there will be no limits on the number of students that can use public dollars in private schools **that** can choose not to take students with disabilities and are not required to report progress or outcomes.

<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Increases High-Cost Special Education reimbursement to 60% in 2025 and makes the appropriation sum sufficient so school districts are guaranteed to recoup 60% of the funding they spent on high-cost students with disabilities.	Maintains sum certain funding. Increases amount of funding to raise high-cost special education reimbursement rate to 45% (year 1) and 50% (year 2).
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Payment for School Medical services. Allows public school districts to retain 100% of Medicaid funds collected for supports like Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, mental health services and specialized transportation for students with disabilities who need to receive Medicaid-funded services at school.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Requirement that parental school choice and special needs scholarship program schools have licensed teachers.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding to reimburse schools for mental health services provided in and of school. (\$118M each year of biennium)	Not included

Transportation		
Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Joint Finance Committee budget
Create sustainable regional transportation capacity that meets performance metrics needed by non-drivers	Allow regional transit agencies	Not included
Support and evolve Volunteer Driver programs (mileage reimbursement, insurance technical fix)	Not included	Not included

Leveraging ARC GIS Non-driver Mapping Tool	Not included	Not included
Audit state statute and state agency processes that require in-person appearance with analysis of whether virtual/telephone/online interactions could be used to save nondriver trips.	Not included	Not included
Create state grant program to help communities install accessible pedestrian signals. (\$200K GPR per year)	Not included	Not included
Create a Non-driver workforce mobility innovation fund to financially incentivize public transit systems to increase capacity	Not included	Not included
Pay for Performance fund to award additional funding to transit systems demonstrating improved performance that addresses non-driver needs.	Not included	Not included
Create infrastructure replacement and equipment maintenance	Create Transit Capital Assistance grant (\$10 M per year)	Not included
Increase funding for mass transit	4% increase to adjust for inflation (\$1.2M first year, \$5.6 second year)	Move funding for mass transit from the segregated transportation fund to the general purpose revenue fund, create five new annual appropriation lines (one for each tier of transit), 2% increase for each tier of mass transit systems in each year of the biennial budget.
Increase funding for paratransit	4% increase to adjust for inflation (\$128K year 1, \$259K year 2)	4% increase to adjust for inflation (\$128K year 1, \$259K year 2)
Increase funding for County Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program and Tribal Elder transportation program (85.21, 85.215)	4% increase to adjust for inflation	Not included.
Increase funding for Specialized Transportation Program,	Increase of \$144K (year 1) and \$309K (year 2)	\$111.5K increase each year of the biennium

Increase number of DMV locations	Increase Division of Motor Vehicles Access with Expanded Hours of Operation to allow expanded hours of operation at the Division of Motor Vehicles' physical locations.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Increase funding in each year of the budget to fund coordination of services for non-drivers	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Restore roadway design considerations in state law that support non-motorist infrastructure	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Increase for Wisconsin Employment Transportation Assistance Program	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Allow use of a state ID instead of a driver's license to establish residency for DNR approvals.	Not included

Mental Health		
Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Joint Finance Committee budget
Establish a network of regional crisis centers	Funding and position authority to support the development of up to two crisis urgent care and observation centers.	\$10M each year budgeted in the supplements appropriation.
Increase funding for Peer Run Respite and Peer Recovery Centers to sustain and allow expansion of programs.	\$260K per year, funding to support existing peer recovery centers and to support the development of two additional peer recovery centers in counties not currently served by existing centers.	Not included
Funding to develop a network of specialized providers to respond to adults and children enrolled in Wisconsin long term care programs who are in crisis.	Not included	Not included

Grant funding to allow additional Wisconsin counties to offer Coordinated Specialty Care for those experiencing a first episode of psychosis.	Not included	Not included
Implement the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health proposal to support Dialectical Behavioral Therapy DBT services in Wisconsin.	Not included	Not included
Support efforts by the deaf community to allocate funding to increase access to linguistically and culturally appropriate mental health services for deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf blind individuals.	\$1.9M in year 2 of funding to establish a behavioral health treatment program for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding to create a suicide prevention grant program.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding to support the in-state 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Call Centers.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding to cover the nonfederal share of the Medicaid Community Support Program which is currently funded by counties.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding to establish a 25-bed psychiatric residential treatment facility which would provide psychiatric care and treatment to children and youths under the age of 21 with complex behavioral health conditions and expanding Medicaid benefits to include a psychiatric residential treatment facility benefit.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding for the peer-run respite center for veterans.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding for youth crisis stabilization facilities.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Medicaid coverage for Certified Peer Specialists	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Forensic Assertive Community Treatment Teams: funding to establish two teams.	Not included

<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Position and expenditure authority for the Office of Children's Mental Health.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Increases the Medicaid reimbursement rate for outpatient mental health and substance abuse services and child-adolescent day treatment to increase access to treatment and suicide prevention services.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Modifies and expands the existing Child Psychiatry Consultation Program into a broader Mental Health Consultation Program.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Provides funding to expand Medicaid benefits to include a psychosocial rehabilitation benefit and to provide reimbursement under the benefit to noncounty providers.	Not included.
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Expands regulations to remove barriers first responders with post-traumatic stress disorder face when seeking worker's compensation.	Not included

Employment		
Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Joint Finance Committee budget
One-Time Provider Transformation Fund to support employment service providers in the state's long-term care system to increase community employment.	Not included	Not included
DWD and DHS to further develop remote employment opportunities and determine a process for data plans, telephones and computer equipment for people with disabilities to pursue remote opportunities	Not included	Not included

DWD to establish a grant or project opportunities for employment service providers to increase wages and retention of vocational workers	Not included	Not included
DWD and DHS to create a transportation initiative that focuses on challenges workers with disabilities face when trying to get to employment locations.	Not included	Not included
Direct DOA to adopt a State as Model Employer initiative	Not included	Not included
Allow Wisconsin to contract with another state for ABLE Account administration	Included	Not included
Direct DWD to establish a designated program to provide free training at technical colleges to increase the number of people trained to become direct support professionals.	Not included	Not included
Direct DWD to create a Worker Training Grant program (Fast Forward) accessible to Home and Community Based employers	Not included	Not included

Other Disability Issues		
Survival Coalition Ask	Governor's budget	Joint Finance Committee budget
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Social security disability insurance payments. Repeals the current prohibition that any Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimant who receives a Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payment is ineligible for UI benefits, and instead requires DWD to reduce a claimant's benefit payments by the amount of SSDI payments.	Not included

<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Creates an Office of Election Transparency and Compliance	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding to implement Automatic Voter Registration	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Shortens the Residency Requirement for voting from 28 days to 10 days.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Allows a county or municipal clerk to begin canvassing absentee ballots on the day before an election.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	eliminating the restriction on how soon a person may complete an absentee ballot in person	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Require polling places to post a Voter Bill of Rights	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Authorizes use of high schools for voter registration.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Requires lead investigation of a dwelling or premises when an occupant under the age of six has lead poisoning or lead exposure above 3.5 mg	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Expands access to Birth to 3 for children with an elevated blood lead level above 3.5 and allocates funding for early intervention services across county programs.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Accept the federal ACA provision for Medicaid expansion	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Expand Medicaid benefits to include services provided by Community Health Workers	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Professionalizing Dental Therapy.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Funding for a Medicaid Community Health Benefit to provide nonmedical services	Not included

<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	grant to support community dental health coordinators across the state.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Homestead Tax Credit Expansion and Indexing.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Tax credit for installing universal changing stations.	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Creates a sales and use tax exemption for diapers, feminine hygiene products and adult incontinence products	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Broadband Expansion Funding	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Broadband Line Extension Grant Program	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Digital Equity Expansion	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	protect broadband customers by requiring broadband service providers to meet certain service requirements	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Increase the amount of disability income subtraction to \$5,500 for a single filer and \$11,000 for a married couple	Not included
<i>(Supported by Survival)</i>	Various workforce housing provisions ²	Not included

² The Governor signed a bi-partisan package of workforce housing legislation separate from the budget which included provisions related to lead remediation and abatement.