

GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING

June 2, 2026

Minutes

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., at the GRADD office. There was a quorum with the following people in attendance:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Daviess	Darla Baker, Henrietta Harris, Melba Bell
Hancock	Christine Schroader, Franklin Powers
Henderson	Connie O'Leary, Kim Biggs, Beth Moran, Charyle Jo Griggs
McLean	Jim Toler, Patricia Martinez
Ohio	Wilda Hardesty
Union	George Blakely, LaDonna Tapp
Webster	Helen Ritterskamp, Sondra Norman

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Mandy Fambrough, Webster County Senior Services
Sandra Martin, McLean County Senior Services
Bill Cooper, Owensboro Daviess County Senior Services
David Tucker, Senior Community Center Daviess County
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services
Brenda Renfrow, Ohio County Senior Services
Bill Rhodes, The Gathering Place
Erin Fulkerson, Five Star Food Services
Abbie Newmeyer, GRADD
Kelli King, GRADD
Tiffany Corsey, GRADD
Tabatha Hooker, GRADD
Mary Poirier, GRADD
Lauren Wellman, GRADD

Johnny "Chic" Roberts, Chairman | Adam O'Nan, Vice Chairman | Curtis Dame, Secretary | Charlie Castlen, Treasurer | Kenneth J. Williams, Executive Director

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Serving the Municipal and County Governments of Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union, & Webster



Kenny Williams, GRADD
Bethanney McPherson, GRADD
Nikki Rouse, GRADD
Megan Dennis, GRADD
Lona Morton, Hancock County Senior Services
Denise Marcum, AACS Daviess County
Brad Alley, GRADD
Susan Nally, UCSS
Leslie Wilson, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Henrietta Harris called the meeting to order, and prayer led by George Blakely.

The motion was made by Connie O'Leary and seconded by Franklin Powers
To approve the minutes as corrected. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

II. ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION TRAINING

Elizabeth Tarver provided a presentation on the importance of collaboration among community partners to help older adults remain safely in their homes for as long as possible. She emphasized the valuable role of community mental health workers, medical providers, law enforcement, and Adult Protective Services in identifying and responding to cases of elder abuse, particularly when individuals lack decisional capacity. She noted that while law enforcement is an important partner, prosecution rates for elder abuse remain low.

Ms. Tarver encouraged attendees to remain vigilant and to always report suspected elder abuse, explaining that Adult Protective Services will screen reports and determine whether they meet investigation criteria. She also reviewed the Vulnerable Adult Misconduct Registry (VAMR), explaining that it tracks compensated caregivers with substantiated findings of abuse or neglect. Registry placements generally remain for seven years, with lifetime placement possible in cases involving fatalities or near fatalities. She encouraged employers to utilize the registry as part of their hiring process to help protect vulnerable adults.

III. PROGRAM REPORTS

Webster County:

Webster County reported a busy spring schedule with trips to Hoover's Garden Patch, Cave-In-Rock, and Amish Country, along with activities including Bingo Size and Drums Alive. During May, the center hosted Legal Aid visits, participated in a prom with Union County, and attended Older Americans Month celebrations across several counties. Staff continue to coordinate with GRADD and Five Star Meals to ensure homebound clients receive meals when the senior center is closed. Farmers Market Nutrition Program cards valued at \$50 are currently being distributed, although fewer cards were received this year due to changes in federal funding.

Union County:

Union County reported a successful Older Americans Month celebration on May 12, attended by representatives from all seven counties. The center also participated in the April trip to Azalea Path and co-hosted the senior prom with Webster County. Staff are working with a state program to pursue dollar-for-dollar matching funds for next year's Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Ohio County:

Ohio County attended several Older Americans Month events throughout the region. Preparations are underway for the Senior Games on June 12, and a bus trip to Shipshewana is planned for July 20.

McLean County:

McLean County announced the successful launch of a chair yoga class, with plans to expand sessions to twice each week due to strong participation. The county's Health and Safety Fair included 22 providers and 41 senior participants, while the Older Americans Month celebration welcomed 75 attendees. A new line dancing class is also being introduced in partnership with Union and Webster counties.

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Hancock County:

Hancock County continues to partner with community organizations, including the public library and Heartland Villa, to provide activities for seniors. The center is promoting the "100 Mile Club" to encourage physical activity from Memorial Day through Labor Day and is planning a community celebration recognizing America's 250th birthday at the end of June.

Daviess County (Owensboro):

Daviess County reported that construction of the new senior center remains its primary focus. An April sneak peek event attracted more than 300 attendees. The center has hired a new Finance Coordinator and Activities Coordinator and recently hosted a health fair featuring 36 vendors and approximately 200 seniors. The ribbon-cutting ceremony is tentatively scheduled for August 31, 2026, with the official opening planned for September 1, 2026.

Henderson County (The Gathering Place):

The Gathering Place reported a successful Health Fair held on May 12 and an Older Americans Month celebration on May 28. The center is preparing for a bus tour to Colorado Springs, scheduled for August 1–9, with approximately 80 seniors expected to participate. Plans are also underway for the Senior Games, scheduled for September 14–18.

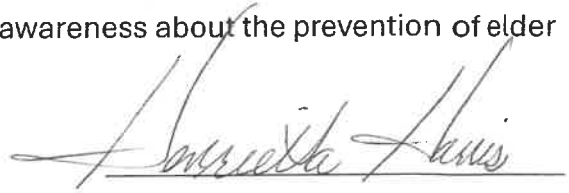
IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Green River Area Wellness Program:

The Green River Area Wellness Program provided free medical, vision, and dental services for individuals ages three and older in Henderson, Union, and Webster counties during June 2026. Henderson County's site also offered additional hearing and mental health outreach services.

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Reminder by Leslie Wilson that World Elder Abuse Awareness Day will be observed on June 15 and serves as an opportunity to raise awareness about the prevention of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leslie Wilson", is written over a horizontal line.

Chairperson

/bsm