



REALTORS® ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN

For Immediate Release:

June 18th, 2025

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RASCW Receives \$20,000 AARP Grant

Madison, WI – The REALTORS® Association of South Central Wisconsin ([RASCW](http://www.rascw.org)) has been awarded a \$20,000 Community Challenge grant from the American Association of Retired Persons ([AARP](http://www.aarp.org)).

This grant will be used to host an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) design competition during Madison’s Housing Week in October. The winning designs will then be available to the public at no charge to increase accessibility and to help lower the cost of building an ADU as well as making the public more aware of how ADUs can benefit our community.

“We are honored to receive this grant from AARP to help bring more visibility and viability to Accessory Dwelling Units in Madison,” said RASCW President Sona Olson. “At a time when rents are high, housing options are limited, and our population is aging in place, ADUs can serve as a creative and compassionate solution. Whether it’s a space for multigenerational living, or a way to add much-needed inventory to our housing market, these small homes have the potential to make a big impact. This design competition is a meaningful step toward more inclusive, affordable, and age-friendly housing in our community. We’re deeply appreciative of the partnership we have with AARP and look forward to working together.”

With 26% of Madison’s population being over the age of 50, having access to a safe and affordable place to live while being close to an area that provides opportunities for a healthy lifestyle is key. Seniors being able to live in an area that provides numerous bike paths, opportunities for civic engagement, entertainment, and access to fresh produce is vital to aging happily.

“AARP has been a longtime supporter of housing initiatives throughout the state. Madison is one of Wisconsin’s few certified Livable Communities and this grant will deeply impact expanding missing middle housing while actively supporting our aging community members and allowing them to live an active lifestyle,” said RASCW Government Affairs Director Robert Proctor.

The AARP Community Challenge grant program funds innovative, quick-action projects that inspire change in areas such as public places, housing, transportation, digital connection, community resilience, and more.

RASCW encompasses Dane, Adams, Juneau, Waushara, Marquette, Green Lake, Monroe, Vernon, Richland, Crawford, Sauk, Columbia, Dodge, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Green and Rock County