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West Bend Supports Wisconsin Long-Term Care Facilities with Equipment Grants
West Bend awarded six facilities across Wisconsin grants to purchase equipment to make patient moving and lifting safer for residents and caregivers

WEST BEND, Wis. (July 03, 2019) – West Bend Mutual Insurance Company partnered with LeadingAge Wisconsin to award Safe Resident Assistance Endowment grants to six long-term care facilities. The grants will be used to purchase equipment to more safely and effectively move and lift residents. Such lifts and equipment are integral to creating a safe and dignified resident handling program.

The six 2019 recipients of the grant were:

- [Samaritan Health Center](#) in West Bend;
- [Bethany Home, Inc.](#) in Waupaca;
- [Belmont Health and Rehab](#) in Madison;
- [Brown County Community Treatment Center](#) in Green Bay;
- [Baldwin Care Center](#) in Baldwin; and
- [Lakeview Health Center & Assisted Living](#) in La Crosse County.



As a major insurer of nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Wisconsin and across the Midwest, West Bend believes it is important to ensure both resident and caregiver safety, as well as to give back to Wisconsin's long-term care provider community. The Endowment was established to provide state-of-the-art equipment to improve transferring or transfer assistance for residents and caregivers, while easing the financial burden for facilities. Since the Endowment's creation in 2014, West Bend has awarded more than \$145,000 in grants to over 35 Wisconsin facilities.

"Patient and caregiver safety is of utmost importance to us," said Jim Keal, vice president of Argent, West Bend's monoline workers' compensation division.

"Our Safe Resident Assistance Endowment and our partnership with LeadingAge Wisconsin provide us with the perfect opportunity to help ensure the safety and comfort of both caregivers and residents at quality facilities throughout Wisconsin."

*Pictured left to right: **Denise May** of LeadingAge Wisconsin / Value First, **Carrie Mahlum** of LaCrosse County Lakeview Health Center & Assisted Living, **Eileen LaFavor** of Baldwin Care Center, **Bobbi Forman** and **Marque Anderson** of Belmont, **Shannon Schuelke** of Bethany Home Waupaca and **Jason Schaufenbuel**, Argent*

"LeadingAge Wisconsin applauds West Bend's ongoing commitment to improving the quality care to our state's nursing home and assisted living residents," said John Sauer, LeadingAge Wisconsin's President/CEO. "Through this company's generosity and charitable giving, more direct caregivers will have access to state-of-the-art equipment designed to safely serve residents in need of assistance with transfers and related cares."

About West Bend Mutual Insurance

West Bend Mutual Insurance Company has been insuring homes, autos, and businesses for 125 years. Headquartered in West Bend, WI, the company employs more than 1,300 associates and partners with 1,500 independent insurance agencies in 13 states to bring these products and services to their valued customers.

About LeadingAge Wisconsin

LeadingAge Wisconsin is a non-profit association of more than 200 mission-driven member organizations, including nursing homes, assisted living and independent facilities, and community service agencies. Statewide, LeadingAge Wisconsin members employ over 38,000 people who provide compassionate care to more than 48,000 individuals daily.

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