Do something for your family & friends this holiday season and give the gift of peace of mind by completing your Advance Directive/Power of Attorney for Healthcare

As we live through the global pandemic of 2020, COVID brings to light how quickly a person's health can change and the difficult decisions, related to health care, that may need to be made. These decisions can affect any of us at any time, not just during a pandemic. If you have not completed an Advance Directive/Power of Attorney for Healthcare document, your family/loved ones and medical providers may not know your health care wishes, should you not be able to communicate them.

The State of Wisconsin has Advance Directives forms online. The forms are relatively easy to complete and execute. You do not need to involve an attorney, if you do not want to. This is a great gift to give your family and friends in the event they ever have to make healthcare decisions on your behalf. This is also a good time for you to encourage your family members to complete their own Advance Directives and Power of Attorney for Healthcare.

RESOURCES:

The State of Wisconsin's fillable /printable Advance Directives and Power of Attorney for Health Care
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forms/advdirectives/f00085.pdf

Link to information pages on completing the Wisconsin Statutory document
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2005992

If you are thinking to yourself why should I do this, please consider this document:
Ten reasons to complete a Power of Attorney for Health Care
https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2004345

We intend to highlight this as a city-wide effort through any interested city departments and groups. Access to completing advance directives is available at some clinics & hospitals and we will encourage and educate residents on those resources as well. We will also offer short 15 minute virtual education sessions (time/day TBA) to assist you in completing the document and having access to witnesses.

Should you have any questions regarding the forms, witnesses etc., please contact Alderperson Jean Ligocki at 608.572.3469 or jligocki@ci.stoughton.wi.us.