**Medicare Outreach Idea of the Month**

**Promote Cost-Saving Programs for Beneficiaries with Limited Income**

**July 2021**

Many people with Medicare have difficulty affording their health care and prescription medications, and many are unaware of the benefit programs that can help. Spread the word about Medicare Savings Programs (MSP), Part D Extra Help (Low-Income Subsidy or LIS) and SeniorCare with the article below. You can also use the English, Spanish or Hmong version of this [MSP article](https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2006493) to reach different target populations in your community.

As things begin to open up, consider using this [Table Tent](https://gwaar.org/api/cms/viewFile/id/2006504) at clinics, libraries, senior centers and other community partners. View additional outreach materials promoting the low-income benefit programs, such as posters, brochures and brochure inserts, on the [Brochures and Posters for Outreach](https://gwaar.org/brochures-posters-for-outreach) page of the GWAAR website.

Medicare fraud, errors, or abuse can cause additional financial concerns for people. Reviewing their Medicare Summary Notices on a regular basis is an important step that beneficiaries can take to protect themselves. Share a link to this video, [How to Read Your Medicare Summary Notice](https://youtu.be/FeUlQiRTCFc) from the Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol on your agency Facebook page or other social media platform.

**To view all the GWAAR Medicare Outreach and Assistance Resources, follow the link to our webpage:**

<https://gwaar.org/medicare-outreach-and-assistance-resources>

By the GWAAR Medicare Outreach Team

**Need Help with Medicare Costs?**

(for Reprint)

If you have Medicare and you’re facing challenges with paying for health care, you may be eligible for programs that can help you save money on medical and drug costs. People with limited income and resources may qualify for Medicaid—a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs.

Even if you don’t qualify for Medicaid, Medicare SavingsProgram**s** may be able to help you pay your Medicare premiums and other costs. If your income is $1,449 or less for an individual, or $1,959 for a couple, and your resources are under $7,970 for an individual or $11,960 for a couple, you may already be eligible for one of these programs.

If you qualify for Medicaid or one of the Medicare Savings Programs, you’ll automatically get Extra Helppaying for your prescription drugs. Extra Help is a Medicare program that helps people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug costs, like premiums, deductibles and coinsurance.

If you don’t automatically qualify for Extra Help, you may still be eligible if your income is $1,610 or less for an individual, or $2,177 for a couple, and your resources are under $13,290 for an individual and $26,520 for a couple. You can apply online for Extra Help with Social Security Administration at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or by calling: **1-800-772-1213**(TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

Another program that can help with your prescription drug costs is SeniorCare, Wisconsin’s prescription drug assistance program. This program is available to Wisconsin residents who are 65 years of age or older and are a U.S. citizen or have qualifying immigrant status. Your annual income determines your level of coverage in this program. For more information or to access an application online, go to: [www.dhs.Wisconsin.gov/seniorcare](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/seniorcare) or call: **1-800-657-2038.**

It’s important to call or fill out an application if you think you could qualify for savings, even if your income or resources are higher than the amounts listed above. These amounts change yearly, and you may be eligible for another savings program depending on your situation.

To find out if you’re eligible for savings through one of these programs or any other benefits, contact <YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION HERE>.