Keeping Medicare Affordable in Maryland

Every day, the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) helps people with Medicare afford their prescriptions, premiums, and doctor visits.

Who MIPPA Helps in Maryland

36,199 Medicare beneficiaries connected to benefits

271,235 Medicare beneficiaries living at or below $22,500
(150% of the federal poverty level)

Ms. D's Story

Ms. D is the mother of S, who has both developmental disabilities and complex health conditions. S was recently disenrolled from the Medicaid waiver, resulting in a loss of Medicaid benefits. S needs oxygen and requires frequent medical visits and care, and Ms. D couldn't afford the copays, forcing her to delay necessary medical treatment. For months, she had been unable to reach anyone for assistance. A benefits counselor stepped in, helped her reapply for Medicaid, and contacted the state eligibility office to get S reinstated. Ms. D was extremely grateful for the help.

What MIPPA Does

Connects eligible individuals to benefits like the Medicare Savings Program and Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy, which help pay for prescription drugs, premiums, and copays

Promotes preventive health services and screenings

Keeps older adults healthy and out of hospitals

Potential Medicare Savings through MIPPA

One of the main components of MIPPA is to connect eligible Medicare Beneficiaries to programs to help them afford prescription drugs through Medicare Part D. Research shows that having prescription drug coverage through Medicare Part D could reduce hospitalization rates by 7%.[1] With an average Medicare hospital stay costing $14,700,[2] connecting individuals to prescription drug coverage could create significant health care savings for both the patient and the government.

How MIPPA is Delivered in Maryland

- 1 State Health Insurance Assistance Program
- 19 Area Agencies on Aging
- 1 Benefits Enrollment Center
  The Arc Prince George's County

How to Access Benefits Online

BenefitsCheckUp is a free tool where individuals can see if they may be eligible for these money-saving programs.

Learn More

BenefitsCheckUp.org

800-794-6559

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* Data from 10/1/23 to 9/30/24 from SHIP Tracking and Reporting System and BenefitsCheckUp

[1] Afendulis CC, He Y, Zaslavsky AM, Chernew ME. The impact of Medicare Part D on hospitalization rates. Health Serv Res. 2011 Aug;46(4):1022-38. doi: 10.1111/j.1475-6773.2011.01244.x. Epub 2011 Feb 9. PMID: 21306369; PMCID: PMC3165176.

[2] Moore BJ, Liang L. Medicare Advantage Versus the Traditional Medicare Program: Costs of Inpatient Stays, 2009–2017. 2020 Aug 4. In: Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) Statistical Briefs [Internet]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (US); 2006 Feb-. Statistical Brief #262.