

# Florida

## 12<sup>th</sup> District

# 6,547

## Low-Income Residents in Florida's 12th District Connected to Benefits in 2022-2023

Thanks to federal funding that supports efforts to find and enroll low-income people on Medicare into benefits they are eligible for, 6,547 low-income older and disabled residents in Florida's 12th District received assistance that can **help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.**

### This federal funding supports Florida's 12th District:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 2 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)



### These organizations help older adults making less than \$22,000 a year apply for:

- Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help)
- Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs)



Funding also supports BenefitsCheckUp<sup>®</sup>, a free online screening and enrollment tool.

### Residents in Florida's 12th District in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- **6,472** Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers received help with access to low-income benefits
- **75** used BenefitsCheckUp<sup>®</sup> to connect with benefits online

### ... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- **80,093** Medicare beneficiaries in Florida's 12th District are living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level and need help affording health care

*Estimate taken from SHIP Tracking and Reporting System (STARS)*

# Kathy's Story

**I** I am a SHINE volunteer in Lake County FL. We have a lot of low-income seniors who need information and help on their Medicare/Medicaid issues. I frequently call our MIPPA expert up in Gainesville with questions, as well as seeking to understand exactly what benefits my client is entitled to. These are people who live on the edge, most are not fluent with computers nor how to navigate the system to get answers. I do my counseling in the local libraries. I have left these sessions in tears after listening to their stories.



## Organizations Connecting Low-Income Residents in Florida's 12th District to Benefits

### State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE)

[www.floridashine.org/](http://www.floridashine.org/)

800-963-5337

### Area Agencies on Aging Citrus and Hernando Counties

Elder Options

[agingresources.org](http://agingresources.org)

800-262-2243

### Pasco County

Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc.

[agingcarefl.org](http://agingcarefl.org)

727-570-9696

**ncoa** | BenefitsCheckUp.  
national council on aging

[BenefitsCheckUp.org](http://BenefitsCheckUp.org)

National Council on Aging

800-794-6559

**For more information,  
contact:**

Howard Bedlin

571-527-3994

[howard.bedlin@ncoa.org](mailto:howard.bedlin@ncoa.org)

**Benefits outreach  
and enrollment  
works—but without  
this assistance low-  
income Floridians on  
Medicare will be left  
behind, unable to  
afford basic  
health care.**