

California

551,137

Low-Income Californians 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, 551,137 low-income older and disabled Californians received assistance that can help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.

This federal funding supports California's:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 41 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)
- 9 Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)



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®, a free online screening and enrollment tool.

Californians in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- **370,137** Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers in California received help with access to low-income benefits
- **181,000** Californians used BenefitsCheckUp® to connect with benefits online

... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- **2.4 million** Medicare beneficiaries in California 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)

Mary Ann's Story

As a disabled senior citizen who lives below the poverty level and has only Social Security upon which to live and pay rent, I myself am a participant in the Extra Help program. It enables me to both get to appointments and to afford the medications and health aids prescribed for me. Without this coverage, I could afford neither.



Organizations Connecting Low-Income Californians to Benefits

[Health Insurance, Counseling, and Assistance Program](#)

California Department on Aging
800-434-0222

[41 Area Agencies on Aging](#)

800-342-9871

9 Benefits Enrollment Centers

- Community Action Marin
- Community Health Initiative of Orange County
- Disability Services & Legal Center
- Family Health Centers of San Diego
- LTSC Community Development Corporation
- Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
- Partners in Care Foundation
- Southern California Rehabilitation Services, Inc.
- United Cambodian Community

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national council on aging

[BenefitsCheckUp.org](https://www.benefitscheckup.org)

National Council on Aging
800-794-6559

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