

North Carolina

623,988

Low-Income North Carolinians 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, 623,988 low-income older and disabled North Carolinians received assistance that can **help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.**

This federal funding supports North Carolina's:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- **16** Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)
- **1** Benefits Enrollment Center (BEC)



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.

North Carolinians in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- **504,688** Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers in North Carolina received help with access to low-income benefits
- **119,300** North Carolinians used BenefitsCheckUp® to connect with benefits online

... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- **680,731** Medicare beneficiaries in North Carolina 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)

Mr. G's Story



As he approached age 65, Mr. G began to worry about how he would afford Part B premiums when he enrolled in Medicare. A benefits counselor screened him for Medicaid and Medicare Extra Help. As winter was arriving, the counselor also encouraged him to apply for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. She walked Mr. G through the process. Shortly before Christmas, Mr. G received news that he was eligible for all. He was overjoyed at starting the new year with greater financial security.



Organizations Connecting Low-Income North Carolinians to Benefits

Medicare and Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)

www.ncdoi.gov/consumers/medicare-and-seniors-health-insurance-information-program-shiip

855-408-1212

16 Area Agencies on Aging

www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/aging/adult-day-services/daas-area-agencies-aging

800-662-7030

Benefits Enrollment Center

Duke Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

www.fmch.duke.edu/patient-care-community-health/benefits-enrollment-center

919-681-7356

 **BenefitsCheckUp.**
national council on aging

BenefitsCheckUp.org

National Council on Aging

800-794-6559

For more information, contact:

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