

Montana

34,993

Low-Income People in Montana 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, 34,993 low-income older and disabled people in Montana received assistance that can help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.

This federal funding supports Montana's:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 10 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®, a free online screening and enrollment tool.

Montana residents in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- 25,093 Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers in Montana received help with access to low-income benefits
- 9,900 People in Montana used BenefitsCheckUp® to connect with benefits online

... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- 68,858 Medicare beneficiaries in Montana 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)

Jackie's Story

Jackie, 81, had recently lost her daughter in a car accident. In addition to experiencing profound grief, she was facing a financial crisis. Her daughter had supported her for many years, supplementing the \$9,600 per year she received in Social Security. Her daughter had paid her Medicare supplemental insurance and Part D plan. Working with a benefits counselor, Jackie discovered she was eligible for multiple programs, including Medicare Savings Programs, Medicare Part D Extra Help, and more. In the end, Jackie saved over \$16,000 thanks to these programs, more than double her annual income.



Organizations Connecting Low-Income People in Montana to Benefits

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

dphhs.mt.gov/sltc/aging/ship

406-444-4077

10 Area Agencies on Aging

dphhs.mt.gov/SLTC/aging/areaagenciesonaging

406-444-4077

nco | BenefitsCheckUp.
national council on aging

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 people in
Montana on Medicare
will be left behind,
unable to afford basic
health care.**