

Keeping Medicare Affordable in Wyoming

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 Wyoming

4,426 Medicare beneficiaries connected to benefits

28,349 Medicare beneficiaries living at or below \$22,500
(150% of the federal poverty level)



Jake's Story

After Jake suffered a stroke, his sister became his main caregiver. But even combined, they could not afford Jake's medication, and he often had to go without it. They were living on a diet of sandwiches and ramen. Meeting with a benefits counselor connected the siblings to programs that can help. They applied for a Medicare Savings Program and Medicare Part D Extra Help, which helped pay for prescription costs, premiums, deductibles, and co-pays. The counselors even went the extra mile to help the pair find a better living situation and food assistance.

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 Wyoming

- 1 [State Health Insurance Assistance Program](#)
- 1 [Area Agency on Aging](#)



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

For more information, contact:

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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.