

Keeping Medicare Affordable in Nebraska

Every day, the <u>Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act</u> (MIPPA) helps people with Medicare afford their prescriptions, premiums, and doctor visits.

Who MIPPA Helps in Nebraska

37,666 Medicare beneficiaries connected to benefits

95,103 Medicare beneficiaries living at or below \$22,500

(150% of the federal poverty level)



Jacob's Story

Jacob, 68, was turned down for Medicare and told he would have to pay \$500 per month for the Medicare Part A and B premiums. Jacob was confused and overwhelmed by the process and did not successfully apply for Medicare on his own. A benefits counselor screened him and found him eligible for a Medicare Savings Program to cover some of his costs. He applied and now is able to enjoy Medicare coverage.

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 Nebraska

- 1 State Health Insurance Assistance Program
- 8 Area Agencies on Aging



How to Access Benefits Online

BenefitsCheckUp is a free tool where individuals can see if they may be eligible for these moneysaving programs.

Learn More



BenefitsCheckUp.org 800-794-6559

For more information, contact:

Natalie Zellner 571-527-3953

Natalie.zellner@ncoa.org

Sophie Morgado 571-527-3953

Sophie.morgado@ncoa.org

Daniel Wilson (571) 527-4031

Daniel.Wilson@ncoa.org

^{*} 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.