

Texas

385,016

Low-Income Texans 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, 385,016 low-income older and disabled Texans received assistance that can help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.

This federal funding supports Texas's:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 28 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)
- 3 Benefits Enrollment Center (BECs)



Funding also supports BenefitsCheckUp®, a free online screening and enrollment tool.

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)



Texans in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- 152,316 Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers in Texas received help with access to low-income benefits
- 232,700 Texans used BenefitsCheckUp® to connect with benefits online

... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

• 1,517,546 Medicare beneficiaries in Texas 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)

Debbie's Story

Debbie, 71, lived in her car, a nursing home, and then in an unregulated board and care home. A benefits specialist did a deep dive into Debbie's life and realized she was eligible for MSP and several other programs. After building trust with Debbie through frequent phone calls and home visits, the specialist was able to help Debbie apply for and enroll in the programs, bringing stability to her life.



Organizations Connecting Low-Income Texans to Benefits

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Health Information, Counseling, and Advocacy Program (HICAP)
https://doi.org/10.1007/j.nc.2012-9240
800-252-9240

Area Agencies on Aging

www.hhs.texas.gov/providers/long-term-care-providers/area-agencies-aging-aaa 800-252-9240

Benefit Enrollment Centers

Bandera County Committee on Aging Inc. / DBA The Silver Sage silversage.org/

Dallas County Health & Human Services

www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/human-services/adult-svcs.php

Elder Financial Safety Center at The Senior Source

theseniorsource.org/what-we-do/financial-assistance-for-olderadults-in-dallas/financial-help-for-elders/

PCO Benefits CheckUp.

Benefits CheckUp.org

National Council on Aging

800-794-6559

For more information, contact: Howard Bedlin 571-527-3994

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