

Florida

12th District

6,547

Low-Income Residents in Florida's 12th District 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, 6,547 low-income older and disabled residents in Florida's 12th District received assistance that can **help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.**

This federal funding supports Florida's 12th District:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 2 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.

Residents in Florida's 12th District in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- **6,472** Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers received help with access to low-income benefits
- **75** used BenefitsCheckUp® to connect with benefits online

... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- **80,093** Medicare beneficiaries in Florida's 12th District 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)

Kathy's Story



I am a SHINE volunteer in Lake County FL. We have a lot of low-income seniors who need information and help on their Medicare/Medicaid issues. I frequently call our MIPPA expert up in Gainesville with questions, as well as seeking to understand exactly what benefits my client is entitled to. These are people who live on the edge, most are not fluent with computers nor how to navigate the system to get answers. I do my counseling in the local libraries. I have left these sessions in tears after listening to their stories.



Organizations Connecting Low-Income Residents in Florida's 12th District to Benefits

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE)

www.floridashine.org/

800-963-5337

Area Agencies on Aging Citrus and Hernando Counties

Elder Options

agingresources.org

800-262-2243

Pasco County

Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc.

agingcarefl.org

727-570-9696

 **BenefitsCheckUp.**
national council on aging

BenefitsCheckUp.org

National Council on Aging

800-794-6559

**For more information,
contact:**

Daniel Wilson

(571) 527-4031

Daniel.Wilson@ncoa.org

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