

# Florida

## 16<sup>th</sup> District

# 16,282

## Low-Income Residents in Florida's 16th 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, 16,282 low-income older and disabled residents in Florida's 16th District received assistance that can **help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.**

### This federal funding supports Florida's 16th District:

- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 1 Area Agency 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<sup>®</sup>, a free online screening and enrollment tool.

### Residents in Florida's 16th District in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:

- **16,282** Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers received help with access to low-income benefits

### ... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- **120,617** Medicare beneficiaries in Florida's 16th 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)*

## Sara's Story

|| Sara's initial applications for MSP and LIS were denied due to an incorrect assessment of her assets. A benefits counselor diligently appealed the decision. To Sara's relief, she received a letter of approval for an MSP. Recognizing the error, the state agency awarded Sara's benefit retroactively, meaning she received \$698, a significant sum for someone on a limited income.



## Organizations Connecting Low-Income Residents in Florida's 16th District to Benefits

### State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE)

[www.floridashine.org/](http://www.floridashine.org/)

800-963-5337

### Area Agency on Aging

Hillsborough and Manatee Counties

Senior Connection Center

[seniorconnectioncenter.org](http://seniorconnectioncenter.org)

813-740-3888

**ncoa** | BenefitsCheckUp.  
national council on aging

[BenefitsCheckUp.org](http://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 Floridians on  
Medicare will be left  
behind, unable to  
afford basic  
health care.**