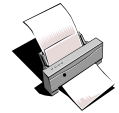


# THE SENTINEL

A PUBLICATION OF THE CENTER OF SERVICE AND INFORMATION FOR  
SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP) PROJECTS



Printer  
Version

## AOA UPDATE

### Programs Consolidate Federally but Stay Separate Locally

An ACL reorganization will run SMP, SHIP, and MIPPA together at the national level but not at the local level. Project officers may change, however. Work has begun on the new SMP data system.

## NEWSROOM

### Hospice Fraud Takes Advantage of People at the End of Life

Understanding the hospice benefit is important in order to be able to spot red flags for fraud. SMPs can play a crucial role in detecting hospice fraud and educating beneficiaries about it. Numerous cases highlight the breadth of hospice fraud.

### Urban Indian Health Programs: A Promising Opportunity for SMPs

To help meet the health care needs of urban Indians, the Indian Health Service (IHS) Urban Indian Health Program (UIHP) supports contracts and grants to 34 urban health programs. Activities range from the provision of outreach and referral services to the delivery of comprehensive ambulatory health care.

### Medicare's Annual Wellness Visit from an SMP Perspective

Written because of a mentor call discussion, this article looks at "free" Medicare health screenings. Such screenings bill Medicare and are sometimes delivered at health fairs that are open to the public. There are ways that SMPs can help minimize problems and misunderstandings.

### New Volunteer Training Tools Are Here

A new edition of SMP Foundations Volunteer Training is now available; it accommodates both classroom-style and online, self-paced learning. Online assessments are now available for the SMP Resource Center's four courses: SMP Foundations Training, SMP Counselor Training, SMP Group Education Training, and SMP Complex Issues & Referrals Training.

*continued*

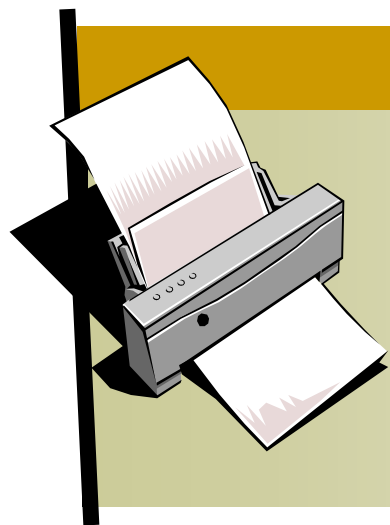
### National Training Meeting Highlights Diversity, Best Practices

Check out these slides from the 2014 SMP National Training Meeting. More are available at: <http://www.wciconferences.com/2014smpnational/agenda.html>

## **SMP SUCCESS STORIES**

### SMP Information Helps Investigation/Indictment of Podiatrist

At a community center in Philadelphia, Asian elders approached the SMP after a presentation, telling about a podiatrist who was billing for services not provided. The information aided an investigation that this year led to an indictment.



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### **Editor**

**Maureen Patterson**

Phone: 319.351.9753

E-mail: [mpatterson@smpresource.org](mailto:mpatterson@smpresource.org)

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