Like Tacos and the Two Step: Working in Harmony to Close the Enrollment Gap

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Session Outline

• MIPPA Accomplishments
• MIPPA Reporting Requirements
• Benefit Enrollment Center Overview
• SHIP/BEC Collaboration
## National MIPPA Successes

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<tr>
<td>MSP</td>
<td>31,594</td>
<td>84,559</td>
<td>108,998</td>
<td>99,232</td>
<td>107,146</td>
<td>118,875</td>
<td>119,074</td>
<td>32,496</td>
<td>701,974</td>
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<td>LIS</td>
<td>46,028</td>
<td>111,249</td>
<td>120,874</td>
<td>73,004</td>
<td>94,526</td>
<td>102,046</td>
<td>91,962</td>
<td>23,812</td>
<td>663,501</td>
<td>$2.65 B</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>77,622</td>
<td>195,808</td>
<td>229,872</td>
<td>172,236</td>
<td>201,672</td>
<td>220,921</td>
<td>211,036</td>
<td>56,308</td>
<td>1,365,475</td>
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Benefits applications submitted by state MIPPA grantees & their value
Great Job!!
Closing the Enrollment Gap

- Research commissioned by NCOA to estimate the current enrollment gap for:
  - MSP
  - LIS
- Preliminary results expected June 30
MIPPA Reporting Requirements – Why?

• We need to consistently report and share the work being done with MIPPA nationally.

• Reporting is necessary to:
  • Illustrate quantitatively how we are doing
  • “Tell the story” of the great work being done
  • Hold each other accountable
  • If it’s not reported it didn’t happen and doesn’t count
What is the current MIPPA State Grant reporting requirement?

• Final Narrative progress reports and final cumulative SF 425 for the 2014-2016 MIPPA State Grant are due 90 days after the end of the project period.
  • **Due December 29th, 2017**
  • Must report progress made toward the goals, outcomes, key objectives and other major tasks or actions established in your state plan.
  • May use ACL’s template: [http://www.acl.gov/Funding_Opportunities/Grantee_Info/docs/PPR-Instructions_ACL_OMB.pdf](http://www.acl.gov/Funding_Opportunities/Grantee_Info/docs/PPR-Instructions_ACL_OMB.pdf)
  • Submit by email to:
    • MIPPA.Grants@acl.hhs.gov and
    • Your ACL Project Officer (Identified in your NOA)
MIPPA Reporting Requirements – What is the 2017 Reporting Requirement?

• **Data**
  • Submitted **monthly** through SHIP NPR
    • # LIS Applications assisted with
    • # MSP Applications Assisted with
    • # Disease Prevention and Wellness Benefit Outreach Events

• **Narrative Progress Reports and SF 425**
  • Submitted as a “Note” in GrantSolutions
    • Semi-annual
      • September 30th, 2017 through March 31st, 2018 – **due April 30th, 2018**
    • Final Report
      • April 1, 2018 through September 29, 2018 – **due December 29th, 2018**
MIPPA Reporting Requirements – What are the expectations?

• Grantees that have access to the SHIP National Performance Reporting (NPR) tool should use NPR for MIPPA reporting.

• Grantees that do not have SHIP NPR system access must work with their ACL Project Officer to request a data reporting waiver annually and ensure the required data is submitted accurately and on time.
  • Contact your ACL Project Officer if you do not have access to NPR.
MIPPA Grantees and Benefit Enrollment Centers (BECs) Working Together toward a Common Goal
BEC Overview

• Benefit Enrollment Centers (BECs)
• Background
• Data Reporting
• Value of Partnerships
Benefit Enrollment Centers (BEC)

• Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)
  – BECs help low-income seniors and persons with disabilities find and enroll in all the benefits programs for which they are eligible (holistic approach)
  – 59 BECs in 31 states
    • Selected through a competitive RFP process
    • We estimate that 41% of the country’s low-income Medicare population is within the geographic areas served by the BECs
BEC Locations
BECs: What do they do?

• BECs help individuals identify and apply for all benefits for which they are eligible but focus on 5 core benefits:
  1. Medicare Part D Extra Help/Low-Income Subsidy (LIS)
  2. Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs)
  3. Medicaid
  4. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP – formerly known as Food Stamps)
  5. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

• BECs also help with Supplemental Security Income (SSI), State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (SPAP), local transportation assistance, tax relief, and more.
BEC Data Reporting

• Report prior months’ data around the middle of the month
• Use an online form to submit their data
• Form asks for the following information:
  – # of people screened and how many of those individuals were determined to be eligible for one or more benefit programs
  – # of people assisted with applications broken down by age
    • Age 65 and over
    • Under age 65
  – # of applications or renewals were submitted to an administering agency for core and non-core benefits
Value of Benefits

• Estimated value of benefits
  – Extra Help/LIS = $4,000 per year
    • Based on SSA’s average savings with Medicare prescription drugs costs
  – MSP = $1,663
    • Based on weighted average of cost savings across programs
  – SNAP = $1,320 per year
    • Based on median benefit for 60+ person living alone from Characteristics of SNAP Households report from USDA
  – LIHEAP = $275
    • Based on average energy subsidy for age 65 and older in the Current Population Survey (CPS)
  – Medicaid = $5,512
Benefits applications submitted by BEC grantees since 2009

Distribution of Benefit Applications Submitted by BECS

- SPAP
- SNAP
- LIS
- MSP
- Medicaid
- LIHEAP
- Tax Benefits
- SSI
- Other

2017 SMP/SHIP National Conference
BEC Accomplishments Since 2009

• Helping more than 484,101 people
• Submitting over 737,772 applications
• Valued at over $1.3 billion
A Two Stepping Taco is an unlikely combination...
SHIP and BEC Collaborations

• Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach and Treasure Coast Inc.
  – Presented by Desirae Mearns
    SHINE Liaison/ Project Director

• Maine SHIP/SMP Legal Services for the Elderly
  – Presented by Anne E. Smith
    Medicare Rights Advocate
2017 SMP/SHIP National Conference

JULY 10–13, 2017  AUSTIN, TX

Area Agency on Aging of Palm Beach and Treasure Coast Inc.

Desirae Mearns
Our Benefits Enrollment Center

- Shauna McRorie – BEC Coordinator
- Part of our SHINE Center of Excellence
- SHIP and BEC in the same place
• Appointment set up for holistic approach (Timetap)
  – ADRC Helpline specialists trained to make proper appointments and prepare beneficiaries for application assistance
How we collaborate

• Train SHIP counselors to identify a BEC referral
• Educate SHIP community sites on BEC
• During the BEC process:
  – During application BEC volunteers educate beneficiaries on SHINE/SHIP
  – Offer SHINE/SHIP appointment during BEC follow up call (Coordinator trained to make appointments)
Partnership is key

• Provide BEC outreach materials at SHIP established partners
• BEC provides SHIP materials during community fairs and presentations
• Social Security and Department of Children and Family training, referral procedure, and shared contacts
• Senior Hunger Relief Group of Palm Beach
Open Enrollment Period

- SHIP will educate clients on BEC during this prime opportunity
- BEC will refer to SHIP for OEP appointments
- Projecting greater awareness in our community for both BEC and SHIP services during this crucial period
- Volunteers love there is a program to do SNAP/ Medicaid applications
The “View” from Maine
A Geographic Look

Maine Benefit Enrollment Centers

- Eastern Area Agency on Aging
- SeniorsPlus
- Spectrum Generations
Outreach Challenges

• Largely rural population
• Many are homebound
• No public transportation
• Varied levels of literacy
• Many months of inclement weather

Too many consumers for BECs to reach alone!
Developing Effective Partnerships

• Look for like minded community-based organizations and invite them to join a statewide Medicare workgroup
• Include representation from federal, state and local organizations
• Take the lead and maintain consistent leadership
• Establish clear guidelines for membership
• Communicate on a regular basis
• Schedule quarterly meetings
• Coordinate activities/collaborate on projects
• Collaborate on specific projects
Maine Medicare Workgroup

• Started in 1996
• Collaboration between the Maine SHIP and CMS
• Goal: “To improve access to and delivery of services provided by Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries and their caregivers in Maine.”
• Membership includes public and non-profit organizations working with people with Medicare
Original workgroup members included:

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- Social Security Administration
- The Maine SHIP
- The Maine SMP
- Office of Elder Services
- Administration on Aging
- AARP
- The five Agencies on Aging
- Legal Services for the Elderly
- Maine Bureau of Insurance
- Maine Primary Care Association
- Maine Equal Justice Partners
- Maine Department of Health and Human Services
- Maine Health Alliance
Current membership also includes:

- Consumers for Affordable Health Care
- Catholic Charities Maine
- Somali Culture and Development Association
- Pine Tree Legal Association
- American Cancer Society
- Pleasant Point Reservation
- Alzheimer’s Association
- USM – Muskie School of Public Service
- Office of the Inspector General
- Partnership for Healthy Aging
- Maine Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
- DFD Russell Medical Center
- Goodall Hospital
- Office of MaineCare Services
- Maine Center for Disease Control
- MedHelp Maine
- M4A
- Home Care & Hospice Alliance of Maine
- Maine Medical Association
- Board of Medical Licensure
Seize the Day!

Stay on top of current events.

* Sometimes a crisis can bring partners together and open up new opportunities.

- Introduction of Medicare Part D
- Policy discussions at the State House
- Health Care Reform: The Affordable Care Act
- ACA Repeal and Replace Initiative
Partnerships Work!

• What’s in it for me?
  – Program expansion
  – Volunteer opportunities
  – Financial support
  – Access to low or no-cost materials
  – Opportunities to present to this group!
Anne Smith
Maine SHIP/SMP
Legal Services for the Elderly
(207) 621-0087 ext. 3102
asmith@mainelse.org
Like Taco and the Two Step....

• Questions and/or Comments