

# HICAP

FRESNO/MADERA (PSA-14)

## Virtual Updates!

### Greetings,

We hope that you and your families are doing well. During these challenging times, we want to remind you that we are open and offering our services for free, via phone and virtually. Our hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please call **(559) 224-9117**.

### **SMP Fraud Assistance**

We encourage everyone to stay alert, Medicare fraud and insurance agent misconduct, is unfortunately at a higher number, during General Enrollment Period. Included, is SMP's new informative flyer on Covid-19 vaccine scams.

**An article on our fraud assistance, SMP, was recently published which you can view here:**

<http://www.maderatribune.com/single-post/group-urges-public-safety-awareness-amid-covid-19-scams>

### **Group urges public safety, awareness amid COVID-19 scams**

California Senior Medical Patrol liaison Claire Pisching puts together a packet of information at the Valley Caregiver Resource Center office in Fresno. "We are the voice of Seniors. We stand up for them.." — Claire Pisching The COVID-19 pandemic has changed all aspects of life.



Nugesse Ghebrendrias/The Madera Tribune  
[www.maderatribune.com](http://www.maderatribune.com)

### **General Enrollment Period (January 1st - March 31st)**

During GEP (General Enrollment Period), Medicare beneficiaries can make changes to their Medicare Advantage plans or apply for Original Medicare. It is important to remember, that it is also the only time individuals can sign up for Medicare through Social Security, if they have not done so and or missed their initial enrollment period when they turned 65. Make sure to contact Social Security at 1 (800) 772-1213 or apply online.

## **HICAP Volunteer Program**

Make a difference, become a HICAP Volunteer Counselor!! Learn how to help others navigate through the confusing world of Medicare. Once training is completed Volunteer Counselors are ready to provide individual counseling to seniors and people with disabilities, regarding Medicare. If interested please contact HICAP's Volunteer Coordinator.

**Laura Robinson:** (559) 224-9117 ext. 304.

Monday - Friday 8am- 5pm

**The next scheduled Volunteer orientation is, April 19, 2021 through April 22, 2021**

## **COVID-19 Vaccines**

Medicare is covering the Covid-19 vaccine, at no cost for beneficiaries. State governments are in the process of handling the distribution.

**We encourage everyone to visit the CDC site for official information on Covid-19 Vaccine on <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>**

## **[COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#)**

Links with this icon indicate that you are leaving the CDC website.. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) cannot attest to the accuracy of a non-federal website.

Linking to a non-federal website does not constitute an endorsement by CDC or any of its employees of the sponsors or the information and products presented on the website.

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**\*Here are local County links on Covid-19 vaccines for more information:**

## **[General Information on the COVID-19 Vaccine | County of Fresno](#)**

Now Vaccinating: Second Dose COVID-19 Vaccines for Healthcare Workers and Individuals 75+ Fresno County residents who received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at the Big Fresno Fair Vaccination Clinic (from 1/6/21 – 1/21/21) will be notified via phone (voice), email address, and mobile text to remind them of their scheduled second dose. . Those that received their first dose on 1/22 .

[www.co.fresno.ca.us](http://www.co.fresno.ca.us)

## **[COVID-19 Vaccinations | Madera County](#)**

Individuals in current phase. The Madera County Department of Public Health is coordinating vaccination for Madera County. We are being allocated vaccination on an increasing basis and working to get people vaccinated as quickly as possible to reduce illness and open up our community safely.

[www.maderacounty.com](http://www.maderacounty.com)

**We are always here to help and share our services!**

# Best Wishes, from the Fresno/Madera HICAP Team ☐

Jennifer, Laura, Jean and Mayra

The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) is a  
Program of The Valley Caregiver Resource Center



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