HICAP Monthly Newsletter
January Issue 2024

HICAP is here to help Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm
Give us a call at (559) 224-9117 or 1-800-434-0222

Take a Look Back at January's HICAP Adventures!
If you are interested in scheduling a HICAP presentation please contact us at (559) 224-9117.
Enrollment Periods are here!

**General Enrollment Period**
January 1st - March 31st
3-month period each year during which you can enroll/join:
- Part A
- Part B

Coverage begins the first day of the following month.

**Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period**
January 1st - March 31st
3-month period each year during which you can:
- Switch Medicare Advantage Plans
- Drop your Medicare Advantage Plan and return to Original Medicare with a Part D plan

Coverage begins the first day of the following month.

Have questions? Let us know!

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**General Enrollment Period**

**Available Programs:**
- JAN
- FEB
- MAR
- PART A
- PART B

**Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period**

**What is the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period?**
This enrollment period begins on January 1st and ends on March 31st.

The Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period allows those already on Medicare Advantage to make a one-time change to their coverage.

**What Can You NOT Do During the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period?**
- Enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan for the first time.
- Enroll in an Original Medicare for the first time.
- Enroll in a Medicare Supplement plan without underwriting health questions.
When do Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period Changes Become Active?

If you make a change to your plan during the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period, your new coverage will go into effect on the first day of the month following your enrollment.

HICAP is available Monday - Friday, 8AM - 5PM to assist you with all things Medicare
(559) 224-9117 or 1-800-434-0222

Upcoming February Events

See where HICAP will be next month:

Palm Village Retirement Community
When: Tuesday, 02/06/24
Time: 10AM

Medi-Cal Application Assistance Day
When: Wednesday, 02/14/24
Time: All Day (Appointment Required)

Poverello House
When: Wednesday, 02/20/24
Time: 9AM

HICAP Social Media

HICAP would like to encourage our beneficiaries to follow us on social media.

HICAP Community Outreach Coordinator, Sujey Martinez creates our wonderful HICAP posts. Below are HICAP's January posts in case you missed them.......
Be sure to keep up with us on all our platforms!
IT'S BACK!
DRIVE THRU
SHREDDING EVENT
FOR SENIORS & CAREGIVERS

THIS IS A FREE EVENT!
Saturday, March 9, 2024
10 AM – 12 PM
A MOBILE SHREDDING COMPANY WILL IMMEDIATELY SHRED YOUR PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

Location:
Valley Caregiver Resource Center Parking Lot
5363 N. Fresno St. Fresno 93710
For more information, please contact your local SMP at (559) 224-9117

Be on the look out for these red flags during Medicare’s Enrollment Periods

Unsolicited contact
Unsolicited phone calls, emails, text messages, social media messages or even people knocking on doors.

Asking for personal information
Remember, Medicare & the Social Security Administration do not call you and ask you for your personal information, they already have it.

Sense of urgency
Scammers will use fear of losing health coverage to manipulate their victims.

Contact your Fresno-Madera HICAP to prevent, detect, and report Medicare fraud

Important HICAP Announcement!
Our website has launched!

Please visit our webpage at the Valley Caregiver Resource Center website for more information about your Fresno and Madera HICAP, at valleycrc.org.

Medi-Cal Application Assistance Day

Join us for one of our favorite events!

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month, Fresno County Department of Social Services joins us at Valley Caregiver Resource Center to assist Seniors and Caregivers about all things Medi-Cal, CalFresh, and CalWorks.
Medi-Cal Application Assistance Day is by appointment only. Please call HICAP at (559) 224-9117 to schedule your appointment. Spaces are limited, call us today!

Senior Medicare Patrol
Your HICAP counselors serve as SMP liaisons, please contact HICAP at (559) 224-9117 to report Medicare Fraud.

The Annual Shredding Event is back! Mark your calendars for this free event. Saturday, March 9th, 2024 10AM - 12PM
DRIVE THRU
SHREDDING EVENT
FOR SENIORS & CAREGIVERS

Protect Yourself & Loved Ones From
Medicare Fraud & Identity Theft
Together Senior Medicare Patrol and Valley Caregiver Resource Center want to help protect you! Bring documents with personal identifiable information- such as old bank statements, bills, old tax returns, and outdated Medicare documents- to be safely shredded.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT!
Saturday, March 9, 2024
10 AM – 12 PM
Location:
Valley Caregiver Resource Center Parking Lot
5363 N. Fresno St. Fresno 93710
For more information, please contact your local SMP at (559) 224-9117

We ask for all participants remain in your car. Staff members will unload your box for you.
A mobile shred truck will immediately shred your personal documents:
• One banker box per participant (cardboard boxes and/or containers cannot be left)
• No cardboard, binder clips, binders, or electronic media will be accepted
• Residential shredding only (no commercial shredding allowed)
• Truck will be available for 2 hours or until full

Additional information and resources
Hello Medicare, is that really you?

Medicare will be conducting their Beneficiary Survey via phone due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are chosen for the survey, you will receive a letter to schedule a phone interview and alert you that NORC, a company working with Medicare, will be calling you.

Be aware that scammers often pretend to be from Medicare to steal your information. Don’t give your personal information over the phone unless you can verify the caller.

If you get a call and aren’t sure it is legitimate, contact the Medicare surveyors (NORC) at 1-877-389-3429 to make sure it was really them calling.
HICAP is a program of the Valley Caregiver Resource Center and we would like to invite you to participate in the following fundraising opportunity:
We welcome interested parties to contact Executive Director, Michelle DiBuduo, to learn more about how you can volunteer, donate, or sponsor one of our upcoming events.

Executive Director: Michelle DiBuduo  
Phone: (559) 224-9154  
Email: mdibuduo@valleycrc.org

We are in need of auction items and would greatly appreciate your support!
We are always here to help and share our services!

Best Wishes, from the Fresno/Madera HICAP Team
Laura, Jean, Sujey, Jessenia, Gyan, Wayne C.,
Linda, and Debra

For program updates and more information, please visit our website:
https://www.valleycrc.org/hicap

Contact Information:
Phone: (559) 224-9117 or (800) 434-0222
Email: mdibuduo@valleycrc.org
Address: 5363 N. Fresno St. Fresno, CA. 93710

HICAP is a part of the National State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) network and supported by the California Department of Aging.

Supported by:

This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SAPG0052-02-01, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official Administration for Community Living policy. HICAP operates with financial assistance and support from the Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging.