

HICAP Monthly Newsletter



Free Service to Medicare Beneficiaries

July Issue 2023

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

Expansion of *Medi-Medi Plans* Coming to Fresno and Madera Counties in 2024



On Friday, July 21, 2023, HICAP welcomed the **California Department of Health Care Services Deputy Director for the Office of Medicare Innovation and Integration, Anastasia Dodson** to present the new Medi-Medi Plan expansion for Fresno and Madera Counties.

In order to offer coordinated care across Medicare and Medi-Cal for

Deputy Director for the Office of Medicare Innovation and Integration

Anastasia Dodson



Biography

Anastasia Dodson currently serves as Deputy Director for the Office of Medicare Innovation and Integration at the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). She provides focused leadership and expertise on innovative models and strategies for Medicare beneficiaries in California, including both dual eligible and Medicare-only beneficiaries. Anastasia has been part of the DHCS leadership team since 2013. She previously served at the California Department of Finance, the County Welfare Directors Association of California, and the California State Senate Budget Committee. She earned a Master of Public Policy degree at the UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, and a Bachelor's degree in Economics at the University of Pennsylvania.



dual eligible beneficiaries, DHCS and Medicare established Medi-Medi Plans.

These plans will be available during Medicare's Annual Open Enrollment (October 15th- December 7th) and coverage will begin in 2024.

HICAP invited local stakeholders from *The Fresno Center*, *The Fresno American Indian Health Project*, and *The Jakara Movement* to participate in the discussion after to provide valuable feedback on how to implement education and outreach for this expansion into their communities.

Are you a Medicare beneficiary and curious if you are eligible to be for a **Medi-Medi Plan**, contact HICAP to speak with a registered counselor at (559)224-9117



Upcoming August Events

See where **HICAP** will be next month:

VCRC's Matter of

HICAP Social Media



Balance Class
 When: Tuesday,
 8/01/23
 Where: VCRC
 conference room
 Time: 10am

**VCRC's Powerful
 Tools Class**
 When: Tuesday,
 8/01/23
 Where: VCRC
 conference room
 Time: 2pm

**EAH Housing:
 National Night Out**
 When: Tuesday,
 8/01/23
 Where: Summer Park
 Apartments at 1275 S.
 Winery Ave. Fresno,
 93727
 Time: 4-6pm

**CCLS: Free Legal Aid
 Part 2**
 When: Wednesday,
 8/02/23
 Where: VCRC
 conference room
 Time: All day,
 appointment required
 (Fully Booked)

**Fresno EOC- Foster
 Grandparents
 Program**
 When: Monday,
 8/07/23
 Where: Fresno EOC
 Time: 10-11:30am

SIRS #169
 When: Tuesday,
 8/08/23
 Where: Pardini's
 Time: 12-1:30pm

**MAAD (Medi-Cal
 Application
 Assistance Day)**
 When: Wednesday,
 8/09/23
 Where: VCRC
 conference room
 Time: All day

**The Link- Fresno
 Senior Center**
 When: Thursday,
 8/10/23
 Where: 1525 N.
 Blackstone Ave.
 Time: 1-2pm

Sunnyside Library
 When: Wednesday
 8/16/23
 Where: 5566 E. Kings
 Canyon Rd. Fresno,
 93727
 Time: 6pm

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 July posts in case you
 missed them.....



MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE

**OPEN ENROLLMENT IS
 OCTOBER 15 - DECEMBER 7**

It's just around the corner!



**DOES YOUR
 COMMUNITY KNOW
 ABOUT HICAP
 SERVICES?**

**SCHEDULE YOUR
 PRESENTATION NOW!**

Let's get in touch!

📞 (559)-224-9117 📅 Monday - Friday 📍 5363 N. Fresno St.
 (800)-434-0222 8AM - 5PM Fresno, CA 93710

Supported by SHIP State Health Insurance Assistance Program, California Department of AGING, A program of valley CAREGIVER RESOURCE CENTER, and a QR code.



HOSPICE FRAUD ALERT

SMP Senior Medicare Patrol
 Preventing Medicare Fraud

**HOSPICE COMPANIES MAY SEND
 DOOR-TO-DOOR AGENTS TO
 SIGN YOU UP FOR HOSPICE.**

WHAT IS HOSPICE?

Hospice is a service for end of life care - usually a life expectancy of 6 months or less. Hospice focuses on reducing pain & symptoms. It does not aim to cure conditions.

Hospice fraud occurs when Medicare Part A is falsely billed for any level of hospice care.

Contact us for more information!

HICAP Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program
 Free Services to Medicare Beneficiaries

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 📅 Monday - Friday 8AM - 5PM
 📍 5363 N. Fresno St. Fresno, CA 93710

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**Native American
Caregiver Forum**
When: Friday, 8/18/23
Where: Clovis
Veterans Memorial
District 808 4th Street,
Clovis, 93612
Time: 9am-2pm

**EAH Housing: Arbor
Court**
When: Tuesday.
8/22/23
Where: 4838 E. Laurel
Ave. Fresno, 93727
Time: 10am

Sanger Library
When: Wednesday.
8/23/23
Where: 1812 7th St.
Sanger, 93657
Time: 6pm

**VCRC Class:
Medicare 101**
When: Thursday
8/24/23
Where: Virtual Class
Time: 2-3:30pm

**Ventanilla de Salud-
Mexican Consulate
and Binational of
Central CA**
When: Tuesday,
8/29/23
Where: 7435 N. Ingram
Time: 8am- 12pm

Reedley Library
When: Wednesday,
8/30/23
Where: 1027 E. St.
Reedley, 93654

**Central Valley
Community Bank**
When: Thursday,
8/31/23
Where: Virtual
Time: 8am-9am

If you are
interested in
scheduling a
HICAP
presentation
please contact
us at
(559) 224-9117.

Thank you!
Fresno-Madera
HICAP
Health Insurance
Counseling and
Advocacy Program
Free Service to Medicare Beneficiaries
**COMMUNITY
PARTNERS**

☎ (559)-224-9117
(800)-434-0222

📅 Monday - Friday
8AM - 5PM

📍 5363 N. Fresno St.
Fresno, CA 93710

Contact HICAP to learn more about how you can support our Medicare beneficiaries your community.

Logos: Fresno County, Valley Caregiver Resource Center, DFP, DHHS, California Phones, American Ambulance, Fresno State, Fresno Public Library, CVIC, Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation, SHIP, California Department of Aging, Valley Caregiver Resource Center, Fresno County Public Library, CCLIS, Department of Insurance, State of California, Central Valley Regional Center, Fresno County Department of Social Services, Fresno Rainbow Pride, The Fresno Center, Agency on Aging, City of Clovis, Resources for Independence, FAIHP, Jakara Movement, Fresno Madera Ministry, Madera County Department of Social Services.

**It's time to
BOOK
your Open
Enrollment
appointment
with HICAP**

**Look out
FOR OUR POST CARD!**

IT'S TIME TO CALL!
HICAP
Health Insurance
Counseling and
Advocacy Program
**OPEN ENROLLMENT IS
OCTOBER 15 - DECEMBER 7**

CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TO REVIEW YOUR MEDICARE PLAN CHOICES

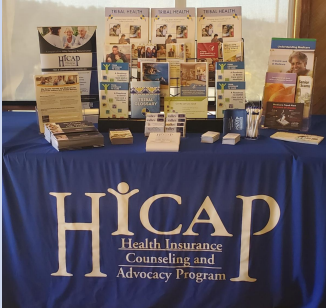
HICAP is a program of the Valley Caregiver Resource Center serving Medicare beneficiaries in Fresno and Madera counties. HICAP counseling services are provided by counselors registered with the California Department of Aging who are acting in good faith to provide information about health insurance options and benefits to you, the client. Counseling is free, confidential, and unbiased.

www.valleycrc.org
(559) 224-9117 • (800) 434-0222

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📅 Monday - Friday
8AM - 5PM
📍 5363 N. Fresno St.
Fresno, CA 93710

Logos: SHIP, California Department of Aging, Valley Caregiver Resource Center, Fresno Madera Ministry, Madera County Department of Social Services.

Important HICAP Announcement!



BIG CHANGES COMING SOON.....



Please visit our webpage at the Valley Caregiver Resource Center website for more information about your Fresno and Madera HICAP. Please scan the QR code for quick access.

APPLYING FOR MEDI-CAL *as a* MEDICARE BENEFICIARY

with **HICAP**
Health Insurance
Counseling and
Advocacy Program
Free Service to Medicare Beneficiaries



IT'S AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3!

1

Get in contact with
Medi-Cal at **HICAP**

MEDI-CAL APPLICATION ASSISTANCE DAY FOR FRESNO COUNTY

During your scheduled appointment, a Fresno County Eligibility Worker may provide assistance with:

- General program questions
- Application assistance with: Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWorks
- Ongoing cases
- Understanding letters received

CALL HICAP TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-5PM ☎ (559) 224-9117

This event is the 2nd wednesday
of every month.

**GIVE US A CALL AND WE WILL
SCHEDULE YOU IN!**

☎ (559)-224-9117

🕒 Monday - Friday
8AM - 5PM

📍 5363 N. Fresno St.
Fresno, CA 93710



This project was supported, in part by grant number 90GAR0002-00-01, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Services underwriting projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official Administration for Community Living policy. HICAP operates with financial assistance and support from the Fresno Health & Aging Agency and Aging. Bajo el auspicio del programa 90GAR0002-00-01 de la Administración Federal de los Servicios de Salud y Servicios Humanos, Washington, D.C. 20201. Se alienta a los beneficiarios que emprenden proyectos bajo el patrocinio del gobierno a expresar libremente sus hallazgos y conclusiones. Por lo tanto, los puntos de vista u opiniones no representan necesariamente la política oficial de la Administración de los Servicios de Salud y Servicios Humanos. HICAP opera con asistencia financiera y apoyo de la Agencia de Salud y Servicios de Fresno-HICAP.

2

Gather these important documents



- Legal names of all people included in the application
- Social Security cards
- Proof of Address: Utility Bills (i.e. PG&E), insurance documents, etc.
- Proof of Identity: Passports, driver's license, etc.
- Income and Tax information: W2 forms, pay stubs, bank Statements, etc.
- Property: Car title, etc.

Disclaimer: Please bring all documents enclosed in a secure folder. Do not share documents/personal information with anyone other than the Eligibility Worker on site.

3

Fill out the initial application for Fresno County

Eligibility is income-based, and considers assets.



- Homeowners
 - Individuals: \$130,000 limit
 - Couples: \$195,000 limit

Families or persons with income too high to qualify for a free Medi-Cal program may have a Share of Cost.

Senior Medicare Patrol

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



SMP

Senior Medicare Patrol

Preventing Medicare Fraud



HOSPICE FRAUD ALERT!

Have you suddenly lost
access to your doctor?

Are your specialists
refusing to see you?

Can't get your medications
at the pharmacy?



For additional information on
healthcare fraud, visit
cahealthadvocates.org

BEWARE!

You may have been tricked into
signing up for a program that is
medically unnecessary for you.

Hospice is a benefit, *covered*
by Medicare and it is *meant for*
Medicare beneficiaries with a
terminal illness.

Some hospice agencies may
approach you outside of
supermarkets or may show up to your
home unannounced and recruit non-
terminally ill Medicare beneficiaries
by offering you free items or services
and calling themselves a "program
that helps seniors."

If you or someone you know signed
up for free services but now face
issues accessing medical care,
please contact the Senior Medicare
Patrol immediately at:

855-613-7080

This project was supported, in part, by grant 90MPPG0019-04-00,
from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of
Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 27, 2023

CLOVIS VETERANS HALL • 6:30PM

TICKETS: \$150 PER PERSON

DINNER / SILENT & LIVE AUCTION

UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN



FOR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Michelle DiBuduo at:
(559) 224-9154 or mdibuduo@valleycrc.org

HICAP is a program of **Valley Caregiver Resource Center** and we would like to invite you to participate in our annual ***Celebration of Care*** scheduled for **Friday, October 27, 2023**.

Please contact VCRC Executive Director, Michelle DiBuduo at (559) 224-9154 for ticket and sponsorship information.

*** We welcome and appreciate Live and Silent Auction items***

We are always here to help and share our services!

**Best Wishes, from the
Fresno/Madera HICAP Team** □

Laura, Jean, Sujey, Gyan, Wayne C.,
Linda, and Jennifer



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

Contact Information: HICAP Program Manager, Jennifer Webb

Phone: (559) 224-9117 or (800) 434-0222

Email: jwebb@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:



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Valley Caregiver Resource Center | 5363 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93710

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