551,137
Low-Income Californians
Connected to Benefits in 2022-2023

Thanks to federal funding that supports efforts to find and enroll low-income people on Medicare into benefits they are eligible for, 551,137 low-income older and disabled Californians received assistance that can help them to afford their prescription drugs and doctor visits.

This federal funding supports California’s:
- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
- 41 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)
- 9 Benefits Enrollment Centers (BECs)

These organizations help older adults making less than $22,000 a year apply for:
- Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy (LIS/Extra Help)
- Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs)

Funding also supports BenefitsCheckUp®, a free online screening and enrollment tool.

Californians in Need Found Help...

Thanks to previous federal funding, in 2022-2023:
- 370,137 Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers in California received help with access to low-income benefits
- 181,000 Californians used BenefitsCheckUp® to connect with benefits online

... But Far Too Many Are Still Missing Out

- 2.4 million Medicare beneficiaries in California are living at or below 150% of the federal poverty level and need help affording health care

Estimate taken from SHIP Tracking and Reporting System (STARS)
Mary Ann’s Story

As a disabled senior citizen who lives below the poverty level and has only Social Security upon which to live and pay rent, I myself am a participant in the Extra Help program. It enables me to both get to appointments and to afford the medications and health aids prescribed for me. Without this coverage, I could afford neither.

Organizations Connecting Low-Income Californians to Benefits

Health Insurance, Counseling, and Assistance Program
California Department on Aging
800-434-0222

41 Area Agencies on Aging
800-342-9871

9 Benefits Enrollment Centers
- Community Action Marin
- Community Health Initiative of Orange County
- Disability Services & Legal Center
- Family Health Centers of San Diego
- LTSC Community Development Corporation
- Mexican American Opportunity Foundation
- Partners in Care Foundation
- Southern California Rehabilitation Services, Inc.
- United Cambodian Community

BenefitsCheckUp.org
National Council on Aging
800-794-6559

For more information, contact:
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Benefits outreach and enrollment works—but without this assistance low-income Californians on Medicare will be left behind, unable to afford basic health care.