2013 MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD (OEP)

The Open Enrollment season is fast approaching and the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging is hosting Open Enrollment events to help Medicare beneficiaries make changes to their Medicare Part D or Part C plans. This is your opportunity to examine your current plan or make changes to your Medicare advantage plan or Medicare prescription drug plan coverage for the following year. Enrollment begins October 15 and runs through December 7, 2012. The changes made at that time will take effect January 1, 2013.

During OEP you can:
• Change from original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan.
• Change from a Medicare Advantage plan to original Medicare.
• Switch from a Medicare Advantage plan to another plan.
• Switch from a Medicare Advantage plan that doesn’t offer drug coverage to one that does.
• Switch from a Medicare Advantage plan that offers drug coverage to a plan that doesn’t offer drug coverage.
• Join a Medicare prescription drug plan.
• Switch from one Medicare Prescription drug plan to another Medicare Prescription drug plan.
• Drop your Medicare prescription drug coverage completely.

Review your plan each year to make sure it will meet your needs for the following year. If you’re satisfied that your current plan will meet your needs for next year, you don’t need to do anything.

You may also schedule an appointment with a trained counselor on Tuesdays or Thursdays. To request more information, call (913) 573-8531 and ask for a SHICK Counselor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 16, 2012</td>
<td>KCK Public Library - West Branch</td>
<td>11am - 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1737 North 82nd Street, KCK 66112</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26, 2012</td>
<td>Crossline Towers</td>
<td>1pm - 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1021 North 7th Street, KCK 66101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

La temporada de Inscripcion Abierta se esta acercando y la Agencia de area de Wyandotte/Leavenworth para Envejecientes esta organizando varios eventos de inscripcion abierta para ayudar a los beneficiarios de Medicare a hacer cambios en sus planes de Medicare parte D y C. Esto es su oportunidad de hacer cambios en su plan de ventaja de Asistencia medica o cobertura de plan de recetas medicas para el ano siguiente. El periodo comienza el 15 de octubre - 07 de diciembre de 2012. Los cambios hechos entonces entraran en vigor el 1 de enero de 2013.

• Cambio de Medicare original a un plan Medicare Advantage
• Cambiar de un plan Medicare Advantage a Medicare original
• Cambiar de un plan Medicare Advantage a otro plan
• Cambiar de un plan de Medicare Advantage que no ofrece cobertura de medicamentos a uno que lo ofrezca
• Cambiar de un plan de Medicare Advantage que ofrece cobertura de medicamentos a un plan que no ofrece cobertura de medicamentos
• Inscribirse en un plan de Medicare para los medicamentos recetados
• Cambiar de un plan de recetas medicas de Medicare a otro plan de recetas medicas de Medicare
• Dejar caer completamente su cobertura de recetas medicas de Medicare

Revise su plan cada ano para asegurarse de que satisfaga sus necesidades para el ano siguiente. Si esta satisfecho que su plan actual satisfaga sus necesidades para el ano proximo, usted no debe hacer nada.
Dress for Success!
A Back to School Uniform Project

The Dress for Success project offered school uniforms to qualified grandparents raising their grandchildren. Forty-seven grandparents received assistance with seventy-seven grandchildren. Each grandchild received two uniforms and a backpack for the 2012-2013 school year.

To qualify, the grandparent (age 55 or older) must have:
- The child living with them;
- Act as the primary caregiver for the child because the parents are unable or unwilling to act as the primary caregiver;
- Is responsible for raising the child

Funding was provided through the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, Older Americans Act and the Family Caregiver Support Program.

WHO’S ONLINE?

The Communicator is now available through email. If you would like to help us cut costs by receiving the newsletter by email.

Please contact the Area Agency on Aging at 913-573-8531 or email your request to 60Plus@wycokck.org.
MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS AND EXTRA HELP

Medicare Savings Programs and Extra Help are savings programs that help pay for Medicare costs, such as co-pays and premiums. They may also lower deductibles, co-insurance and prescription drug costs.

If you have limited income and resources or your income falls below the amounts listed in the table, you may qualify for Extra Help and one or more of the Medicare Savings Programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAVINGS PROGRAM</th>
<th>INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY INCOME LIMIT**</th>
<th>MARRIED COUPLE MONTHLY INCOME LIMIT**</th>
<th>PAYS FOR:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARY (QMB)</td>
<td>$951</td>
<td>$1281</td>
<td>PART A, PART B, AND PART D CO-PAYMENTS, DEDUCTIBLES AND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW INCOME MEDICARE</td>
<td>$1137</td>
<td>$1533</td>
<td>PART B PREMIUMS AND PART D CO-PAYMENTS, DEDUCTIBLES AND COINSURANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPANDED LOW INCOME MEDICARE BENEFICIARY (ExLMB)</td>
<td>$1277</td>
<td>$1723</td>
<td>PART B PREMIUMS AND PART D CO-PAYMENTS, DEDUCTIBLES AND COINSURANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDICARE PART D SUBSIDY (LIS OR EXTRA HELP)</td>
<td>$1396</td>
<td>$1891</td>
<td>PART D PREMIUMS CO-PAYMENTS AND DEDUCTIBLES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income and resource qualifications depend on a variety of factors. If you are on a fixed income and would like help paying for Medicare and prescription drug costs but don’t meet the income guidelines discussed, you are still encouraged to apply.

For more information about Medicare Savings Programs and Extra Help, contact the Area Agency on Aging nearest you by dialing toll-free 1-866-457-2364. Find out if you or your loved one qualifies and start saving money today!

This program is a project of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging.
KANCARE Update

The state of Kansas is moving towards Medicaid managed care. It is scheduled to begin on January 1, 2013. This plan is focused on quality and patient-centered care through managed care.

The goals of KANCARE are to improve the quality of care for Kansans receiving Medicaid. This will control costs and establish long-lasting reforms that improve the quality of health and wellness for Kansans. There are three managed care organizations (MCOs) that will provide all Medicaid services: Amerigroup Kansas, Sunflower State Health plan and United Healthcare of the Midwest. Beginning in November 2012, Medicaid beneficiaries will be assigned to an MCO. They will have a 45 day period during which they may choose a different MCO to deliver their health and dental care.

Here are some of the services through the plan: dental services for children, a new preventive dental benefit for adults and adult emergency dental services. All Medicaid beneficiaries will be able to access transportation services to non-emergency medical and dental appointments.

The state agencies and managed care organizations associated with this project are listed below:

**MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS**

- **AmeriGroup Kansas, Inc.**
  - http://kansas.joinagp.com/
  - 1-888-821-1108

- **Sunflower State Health Plan**
  - http://www.sunflowerstatehealth.com/
  - email: SunflowerStateHealth@centene.com

- **United Healthcare of the Midwest, Inc.**
  - http://www.uhccommunityplan.com/
  - kansas
  - email: ks.net.mgmt@uhc.com

**STATE AGENCIES**

- **Kansas Department of Health and Environment**
  - Email: KanCare@kdheks.gov

- **Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services**
  - http://www.kdads.ks.gov/
  - Email: KanCare@kdheks.gov

- **Fiscial Agent - HP**
  - Provider: 1-800-933-6593
  - Beneficiary: 1-800-766-9012

**AAA STAFF RECEIVES AIRS CERTIFICATION**

The Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging is proud to announce that Betty Ewell, Linda Ramirez, and LaMonica Upton, have successfully passed an international certification examination for their profession.

The **AIRS Certification Program** awards professional credentials internationally to individuals. It is a recognition of demonstrated competencies in the field of information and referral (I&R) that includes the knowledge, skills, attitudes and work-related behaviors needed by I&R practitioners to successfully execute their duties.

The Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) is the professional association for over 1,200 community Information and Referral (I&R) providers, primarily in the United States and Canada - helping to bring people and services together.

AIRS Certification demonstrates the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging’s quality assurance and commitment to constantly improving customer service.
AAA SPONSORED TRIP TO WYANDOTTE COUNTY MUSEUM

The Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging sponsored a trip to the Wyandotte County Museum. The group was greeted and toured by Patricia Schurkamp, Museum Director (also known as Trish). The group listened to Trish as she told story after story about the items in the museum. Monty, a volunteer of the museum, took time to discuss the ‘51 flood photos in the gallery, answered questions and invited everyone back to the museum at their leisure. An enjoyable and very interesting afternoon was had by all.

SACRED HEART HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE DONATES FANS TO AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Bob Blevins, Owner & Operator of Sacred Heart Home Health & Hospice (center), along with his staff, converged on the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging with fans to assist the senior population where needed. The Area Agency on Aging appreciates the outstanding decision to contribute to the community. Also pictured, Margie Alcanter and Rik Van Dyke of the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging.

BEWARE OF FRAUDULANT CALLERS

Please be aware that beneficiaries in both Kansas and Missouri have been receiving phone calls reporting that Medicare needs to issue a new Medicare card. The caller will go on to say that they need the beneficiary banking information.

It is important to know that Medicare does NOT make calls and that Medicare will NEVER ask for your social security number (they already know it), nor will they ask for banking information.

Keep your information safe and DO NOT give personal information over the phone.
NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson. It was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively. Also, Columbus Day or Día de la Raza, which is October 12, falls within this 30 day period.

ITS MORE THAN JUST A GARDEN

The Turner Community Garden located at 55th & Klamm was started in 2010 by a few members of the 50+ Boomin’ Bears group. Since then the garden has evolved and diversified. Children, teenagers, families and seniors now participate.

The area had been used for illegal dumping and was overgrown with vines and weeds. Since then, grants and individual donations have aided in supplying most of the funds to accomplish this transformation of an eyesore into a beautiful garden. In 2011, a Butterfly Garden was developed. Butterflies from this garden are tagged and can be tracked nationally. In 2012, a plant-to-program was implemented. This program teaches children how the vegetables they eat are grown.

The garden is always looking for ways it can serve the community and is open 7 days a week from dusk to dawn.

FARMER’S MARKET COUPONS EXHAUSTED

The Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging has distributed all 400 Farmer’s Market vouchers. The local farmers markets will be up and running until October 2012.

If you would like to find a location near you, you may contact the Area Agency on Aging at 913-573-8531.

Senior Medicare Patrol

Call 1-800-860-5260

To report Medicare Fraud in Kansas

Protect...yourself from Medicare error, fraud, and abuse.

Detect...learn to detect potential errors, fraud, and abuse.

Report...if you suspect that you have been a target of errors, fraud, and abuse....report it

Don’t be a victim of Medicare fraud, read your Medicare Summary Notice every quarter!!!

For more information about SMP contact the Wy/Lv Area Agency on Aging at: 913-573-8531

Affordable Incontinence

www.AffordableIncontinence.com

BBB-Affordable (988-992-3367)

Discreet Delivery · Personalized Service · Superior Products · Locally owned and operated

Grace Hospice is locally owned and operated with staff that has over 300 years of combined hospice experience.

What makes Grace Hospice so unique?

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• Dr.’s, RN’s, Home Health Aides, Social Workers and Chaplains are available 24 hours a day, 365 days per year
• Serving the Kansas City Metro Area, Lawrence, Topeka and surrounding communities

Phone: 816-444-4611 · Fax: 816-444-9480
Toll Free: 866-878-4611 · TDD#: 800-735-2966
HALLOWEEN JOKES

- What kind of music do ghosts like to dance to?  Soul music.
- How did the ghost sew his sheet?  With a pumpkin patch.
- What do skeletons say before they eat?  Bone Appétit.
- Why didn’t the mummy go on vacation?  He needed to unwind.
- Why don’t monsters eat clowns?  Cause they taste funny.
- Why didn’t the skeleton dance at the party?  He had no body to dance with.

Congratulations to Teresa Bell! Ms. Bell is the winner of the $25 gift card to Price Chopper.

FALL

Find and circle all the words hidden in the grid.

- ADMIRAL
- AUTUMN
- CANDY
- CHRISTOPHER
- COLUMBUS DAY
- CULTURE
- FOOTBALL
- HARVEST
- LABOR DAY
- MOON
- NEW WORLD
- ORANGE
- POPCORN BALLS
- RAKE
- SCARECROW
- SHIPS
- SQUASH
- APPLES
- BACK TO SCHOOL
- CESAR CHAVEZ
- CIDER
- COSTUME
- FALL
- HALLOWEEN
- HAUNTED HOUSES
- LEAVES
- NATIVE AMERICANS
- OCTOBER
- PICNIC
- PUMPKINS
- SANTA MARIA
- SEPTEMBER
- SPAIN
- SQUIRREL
- TRICK OR TREAT

Enter the drawing for a $25 gift card to Hen House. All you have to do is name three holidays in September and October!

1. ___________________________
2. ___________________________
3. ___________________________

Name: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________
Phone: ___________________________

Return completed form to: Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging, 1300 North 78th Street, Suite 100, Kansas City, KS 66112

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 28TH
Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging
1300 North 78th Street, Suite 100
Kansas City, Kansas 66112

Phone: 913-573-8531
Fax: 913-573-8577
E-mail: 60Plus@wycokck.org
Website: www.wycokck.org/aging

60Plus?...Call On Us!

The Communicator is published bi-monthly by the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging. It is funded by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability services through the Older Americans’ Act. We assume no responsibility for the care and return of unsolicited material. Donations are suggested.

If you need assistance call the Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging at 913-573-8531.

The Wyandotte/Leavenworth Area Agency on Aging does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex, or handicap.

If you feel you have been discriminated against, you may file a complaint with the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services at 1-800-432-3535.

MILL LEVY FUNDED PROGRAMS

Transportation
913-573-8308
(Demand Response)

Hearing Aid Program
Providence Medical Center
913-596-5143
Legal Services
Kansas Legal Services
913-621-0200

CALENDAR

Labor Day
Monday, September 2, 2012
Unified Government offices closed
Columbus Day
Monday, October 8, 2012
Halloween
Wednesday, October 31, 2012