

A Kenosha County ADRC Benefit Specialist Newsletter

### Medicare Open Enrollment October 15, 2022, through December 7, 2022

Medicare Open Enrollment is an important time for those with Medicare to review their current Part D prescription drug plan and Part C advantage plan, and determine if it is still the best option. Insurance companies can change plan premiums, deductibles, and co-pays each year. Switching to a different plan could result in extra money in your pocket.

- Check to see if your plan is still the best option for you. Your needs may have changed during the past year.
- You may find you're going to the doctor more or less often, the prescription drugs you take may be different, or you may need better access to health care services.
- Benefits can vary. Not all Medicare coverage options offer the same benefits. Plan benefits can change from year-to-year.
- When you visit Medicare.gov/plan-compare, it will be easier than ever to compare coverage options and shop for plans. You may be able to find plans in your area that cost less, cover your prescriptions, allow you to choose your doctor or pharmacy, and offer extra benefits that Original Medicare doesn't cover, such as vision, and dental.
- Review your 2023 "Medicare & You" handbook. There is information about Medicare coverage, as well as Medicare Advantage, and Medicare Prescription Plans.
- Questions? Contact the Aging & Disability Resource Center at 262-605-6646 or 800-472-8008.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### "WELCOME TO MEDICARE WORKSHOPS"

**\*Registration Required** Call Kenosha County ADRC at 262-605-6646 or 1-800-472-8008 and reserve your time and location.

The workshops will be presented by the Kenosha County ADRC in person and at no cost.

#### Locations:

Kenosha Southwest Library 7979—38th Avenue—Kenosha WI.

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 10 a.m. - noon

Tuesday, August 30, 2022 10 a.m. - noon

#### COMMUNITY EVENT:

Kenosha HarborMarket

Saturday, July 30, 2022 Kenosha (Second Avenue and 56th Street) 9 a.m.—2 p.m. Come visit our booth!



### How We May be Able to Assist You

In December 2021 a benefit specialist began working with a 73year-old individual who informed her that he lost his dentures. His insurance denied a new pair because they had covered the cost of replacement dentures three years prior. He contacted the Kenosha County Aging & Disability Resource Center for help getting a new set of dentures and the benefits specialist offered assistance.

The benefit specialist reviewed the client's medical records and found he was diagnosed with both lower gastric issues and swallowing issues. He also was losing weight and the lack of dentures adversely affected his health. He had been relying on a liquid nutritional supplement which was very expensive.

The benefit specialist prepared a letter in support of a new set of dentures along with supporting documentation from the client's dentist and primary physician. The benefits specialist assisted the client in submitting the information for an appeal to his insurance. The client represented himself in the appeal. Thirty days later the client reported he won his appeal and received a new set of dentures.





#### Meet Brianne Bencs, Benefit Specialist



My name is Brianne Bencs, I am a Benefits Enrollment Specialist/Wisconsin SHIP Counselor with the Kenosha County Aging & Disability Resource Center.

I am a 2021 graduate of the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology with a minor in Women, Gender, and Sexualities Studies.

My role as a Benefits Enrollment Specialist is to provide comprehensive education, screening, and enrollment in FoodShare, Low Income Subsidy, Medicare Savings Program, Medicaid, Medicare, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and other public benefits. I also assist in conducting outreach in the community for those who may be eligible for public benefits.

I am passionate about promoting equality among people and working with older adults and those with disabilities. I enjoy helping others complete their own goals and achievements. I am committed to always expanding my knowledge, and hope to always use my ability to grow and learn new ways to serve the community to the best of my abilities. I look forward to building new relationships with the people I can assist in Kenosha County.

# Monday – Friday • 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. • Appointments available

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