

You're Invited!

To: New BenefitsCheckUp Training
Sponsored by Mary Kay Browne-MCOA
Manager of Special Projects

When: Tuesday, May 19th @ 2:30

Where: Uxbridge Senior Center – 36 S. Main St.

The number of seniors living with insufficient incomes is staggering. There is an urgent need to increase benefits screening for older adults in Massachusetts. To help combat elder economic insecurity, the Uxbridge Senior Center in conjunction with Mary Kay Browne, Manager of Special Projects at the MCOA, will host a free 75-minute training session on NCOA's BenefitsCheckUp, a web-based service that helps seniors identify what benefits they may qualify for and how to apply for them.

Why Should You Make Time for this training event?

- Nationally, of the 40.8 million elderly Social Security pensioners age 65 and older, 23% of married couples and 46% of unmarried persons rely on Social Security for 90% or more of their income.
- Most troubling, seniors in Massachusetts are more likely to face economic insecurity than seniors in any other state.
- In Massachusetts, the average gap between an older adult's monthly income and the cost of basic and necessary expenses is estimated to be \$9,800 per year.
- This training gives all social service agencies in Massachusetts free access to BenefitsCheckUp.org/MCOA an internet-based benefits screening tool that identifies up to 200 state and federal financial benefits assistance programs for older adults living in Massachusetts. After the training we encourage all service providers to spread the word to the public about the BenefitsCheckUp tool and to incorporate benefits screening into your outreach and case work protocols.

I hope you will be able to join us for this important training on Tuesday, May 19th at 2:30 pm. Please RSVP @ 508-278-8622 or respond to this email by Friday, May 15th at 3:00pm to reserve your spot. I look forward to seeing you!

Marsha Petrillo, Director