

## ***NEWS FROM SHINE FOR MAY 2016***

### **Need Help with the Cost of your Prescription Medications??** **Prescription Advantage can Help!!**

Prescription Advantage is a state-run program which helps many seniors pay for their prescription drugs. Eligibility is based on *income only* and there is *no asset limit!*

#### **Who can join?**

If you are a **Massachusetts resident, eligible for Medicare**, and are:

- 65 years or older with an annual income at or less than \$59,400 for a single person or \$80,100 for a married couple
- OR
- Under 65 years and disabled, with an annual income at or less than \$22,335 for a single person or \$30,118 for a married couple.

You may also join... if you are 65 years or older and **not eligible for Medicare**. **There is *no income limit***.

There is **no charge** for joining Prescription Advantage, if you have an annual income at or less than \$35,640 for a single person and \$48,060 for a married couple. There is a \$200 per person annual enrollment fee for those with higher incomes.

Call Prescription Advantage today to enroll on the phone or ask for an application form. You can reach Prescription Advantage at 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), then press or say **2**. You may also apply on line by going to [www.prescriptionadvantagemma.org](http://www.prescriptionadvantagemma.org).

**Trained SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Everyone) volunteers can help you! They offer free, unbiased, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to anyone on Medicare. Call your senior center and ask for a SHINE appointment. You can also call 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), then press or say 3. Once you get the SHINE voice mail, leave your name and number. A volunteer will call you back. You can also visit us on the internet at [shinema.org](http://shinema.org)**

#### **“SHINE’S MEDICARE AND MORE” PROGRAM**

The Central MASS SHINE Program is now sponsoring a monthly Cable TV program called SHINE’s MEDICARE AND MORE”, we hope your local cable channel will pick it up. This program is designed to educate and update MEDICARE beneficiaries and their families on MEDICARE and other programs that can assist you with your health insurance needs. If you don’t see it on your local cable channel give them call and ask about it.

#### **CENTRAL MASS SHINE WEBSITE**

You can visit us on the web at [www.shinema.org](http://www.shinema.org). Our site has valuable general information and links to other agencies that can assist you with your insurance needs. **We also have a link to our very informative cable TV program Medicare and More.**