



FOR MEMBERS AND ALLIES

OCT. 22, 2024

Urge Congress to Continue Funding for Medicare Savings Outreach Programs

The November general election is just around the corner, and after the hustle and bustle of the presidential race, you may think things will slow down on Capitol Hill. But there is still plenty of work to be done in the lame-duck session of the current Congress, including securing continued authorization of and funding for the **Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act's (MIPPA) low-income outreach and assistance program**. Earlier this year, after strong advocacy by AAAs and others, funding for MIPPA was extended through December 31, 2024. This means Congress will need to renew it again before year's end in order to prevent a crisis for the program.

MIPPA-funded efforts, operated by AAAs, SHIPs and ADRCs, rely on this funding to conduct targeted outreach to those Medicare beneficiaries most in need of Medicare’s cost-savings programs, such as the Medicare Savings Programs and LIS/ExtraHelp. This funding is key to ensuring that eligible Medicare beneficiaries get the benefits they need and deserve. [Data](#) from 2022–2023 shows that MIPPA-funded efforts helped 9.3 million people receive help with access to low-income benefits.

To prevent the discontinuation of MIPPA, we are asking you to reach out to your congressional delegations to urge continued funding for MIPPA! Read on to get started.

Take Action Today

Call or email your U.S. Senators and all Representatives whose constituents you serve in your planning and service area. Express concern about the state of the MIPPA low-income outreach program and share the value it brings to Medicare beneficiaries you serve.

- **Customize our template email (below) to include your local MIPPA data and perspective.**
- Find your Members’ contact information on their websites: www.house.gov and www.senate.gov.

Sample Language

Be sure to customize carefully!

Dear **[SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE LAST NAME]**:

On behalf of **[YOUR AGENCY/PROGRAM NAME]** in **[AGENCY/PROGRAM LOCATION/STATE]**, we are writing to alert you to the upcoming December 31, 2024, deadline to continue funding the Medicare

Improvements for Patients and Providers Act's (MIPPA) low-income outreach and assistance program. Our agency relies upon these important programs to conduct targeted outreach to low-income Medicare beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled in Medicare programs designed to save them money.

The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act's (MIPPA) low-income outreach and assistance program provides essential funding to **[AGENCY NAME]** and other Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) around the country. The program, administered at the federal level by the U.S. Administration for Community Living, was funded earlier this year through December 31, 2024, and it is essential that this funding is extended into 2025 and beyond.

From 2022–2023, MIPPA programs helped 5.7 million Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers to receive help with access to low-income benefits, alongside another 3.6 million who used online services to find a program. Notably, there are an estimated 20.5 million Medicare beneficiaries in America eligible for Medicare Savings Programs who are not yet enrolled. MIPPA needs funding to ensure AAAs, SHIPs and ADRCs can continue targeted outreach to help enroll eligible beneficiaries into these important programs.

[INSERT ANY KEY DATA OR OTHER POINTS ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM AND THOSE YOU HAVE HELPED.]

Our hope is that you can take action, or speak with your colleagues on the right committees, to ensure that MIPPA is updated and funded as soon as possible or at least included in the next spending bill.

Please feel free to reach out any time to **[INSERT CONTACT INFORMATION]** on this or any aging issues of importance to you and your constituents.

Sincerely,
[NAME, AFFILIATION, ADDRESS, ETC.]

Stay tuned for more updates from USAging and thank you for your advocacy on this important issue!

If you have questions or concerns about this *Advocacy Alert* or USAging’s policy positions, please contact the USAging Policy Team, Amy Gotwals, Olivia Umoren and Seth Ickes at policy@usaging.org.



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