



Highlighting Aging and Disability Partnerships through I&R/A Resources

Kelsey Walter & Erin White

June 5, 2013

www.nasuada.org

Session Objectives

- Gain understanding of what NASUAD is and how we can help you
- Learn about the role of MIPPA: Helping Older Adults & Individuals with Disabilities Afford Medicare
- Review National I&R Support Center Resources
- Hear updates about the new CIRS-A/D Certification
- Preview new Support Center Introduction to Disability Slides

National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities



Mission

To design, improve, and sustain state systems delivering home and community based services and supports for people who are older or have a disability, and their caregivers.

Advocate – Convene – Collaborate

Members

Directors of 56 State Agencies on Aging and Disability

NASUAD Tools and Resources

- Online Tools:
 - The State Medicaid Expansion Tracker
 - State Medicaid Integration Tracker
 - **NASUADiQ.org** Training Courses
 - NASUAD.org
 - HCBS.org (HCBS Clearinghouse)
- Friday Updates
- Annual State of the States Survey
- Annual Economic Survey
- Long Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center
- National Aging Information and Referral Support Center

**Helping Older Adults &
Individuals with Disabilities
Afford Medicare:
The Role of MIPPA**

Improving Medicare Affordability: A Two-Tiered Process

1. Establish programs to make Medicare more affordable for qualifying individuals
2. Help qualifying individuals enroll in these programs

Improving Medicare Affordability

- Step 1: Establish programs to make Medicare more affordable for qualifying individuals
 - ✓ Medicare Part D Extra Help Program
 - ✓ Medicare Savings Programs

Medicare Part D Extra Help Program

(Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy - LIS)

- Administered by: Social Security Administration
- Purpose: To help Medicare recipients with limited incomes and resources pay their Medicare Part D prescription drug costs
- Result: Most qualifying recipients will pay:
 - ✓ No Medicare Part D premiums
 - ✓ No annual deductibles
 - ✓ No more than \$6.35 for each covered prescription

Medicare Part D Extra Help Program

(Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy - LIS)

- Auto-Enrollment: Some Medicare recipients are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part D Extra Help
 - ✓ Medicare recipients on Medicaid (dual-eligibles)
 - ✓ Medicare recipients receiving SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
 - ✓ Medicare recipients enrolled in an MSP (Medicare Savings Plan)
- Enrollment by Application: All other Medicare recipients must apply through the Social Security Administration to be considered for Part D Extra Help

Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs)

- Purpose: To help low-income Medicare recipients pay Medicare Part B (outpatient medical care) premiums
- Administered by State Medicaid agencies
- There are 4 different MSPs available, each with a different income and resource eligibility limit

Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs)

- Result: Decreased out-of-pocket Medicare costs.
 - ✓ 3 out of the 4 MSPs pay the \$104.90/month Medicare Part B premium (for outpatient medical care)
 - ✓ For some people, the MSP will also help pay the Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) premiums, and any Part A and B deductibles and co-payments
 - ✓ If you qualify for an MSP, you automatically qualify for Medicare Part D Extra Help
- Enrollment by Application: Medicare recipients must apply through their State Medicaid Agency

Improving Medicare Affordability

- Step #2: Assist qualifying individuals to enroll in the Medicare Part D Extra Help Program and Medicare Savings Programs

✓ MIPPA

MIPPA

“Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act”

- Enacted by Congress in 2008
- Goal: Strengthen Medicare for low-income beneficiaries by educating and enrolling more people for Medicare subsidies
- How it works: Through MIPPA, the federal government allocates funding for the Aging & Disabilities Network to increase outreach to people with Medicare (especially those with limited incomes and resources)
- Grant Administrators: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services / Administration for Community Living.
- Grant Recipients: NCOA, SHIPs, AAAs, ADRCs, sub-grantees
- NCOA’s Center for Benefits Access – Serves as the MIPPA Technical Resource Center

Example of MIPPA in Action: NASUAD's MIPPA Project

- NASUAD received a MIPPA sub-grant from NCOA
- Focus: Disability Community
- Overall Objective: Increase enrollment of individuals with disabilities in Medicare subsidies
- Goals:
 - Form partnerships with the disability community, including disability agencies and stakeholders at the national, state, and local level
 - Establish ideas to “market” Medicare subsidy programs to our target audience via partnerships and focus groups
 - Create educational materials specifically tailored for this audience
 - Provide educational materials to the disability community to educate individuals about Medicare subsidy programs and ultimately grow program enrollment

Relevance to I&R Specialists

- Important to know these 2 Medicare subsidies are available to make Medicare more affordable
- Important to look for signs indicating a client's Medicare benefits should be reviewed
 - ✓ Receiving Medicare
 - ✓ Dealing with income/housing/healthcare cost issues
- Important to know where to locate additional information/where to refer clients for information

Resources for I&R Specialists

Medicare Rights Center

www.medicarerights.org

Helpline: 800-333-4114

NCOA Center for Benefits Access

www.centerforbenefits.org

Official U.S. Government Site for Medicare

www.medicare.gov

Local State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

National Information and Referral Support Center

Aging and Disability Services

I&R/A Support Center

The Support Center provides training, technical assistance, product development and consultation to build capacity and promote continuing development of aging information and referral services nationwide.

- Monthly Technical Assistance Calls
- Training: Online, On-site, CIRS-A Train-the-Trainer
- Every other year survey of the Aging and Disability I&R/A Networks
- Coordinate the Aging and Disability Portion of the Annual AIRS Conference

<http://nasuad.org/initiatives/national-information-referral-support-center>

Support Center Monthly Technical Assistance Calls

2013 - 2014 Topics

- **December:** Resources for People with Alzheimer's and Related Dementias and their Caregivers
- **February:** National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative (NDNRC): Enrolling People with Disabilities in Health Insurance Marketplaces
- **February:** Immigration and Refugee Resources for Older Adults and People with Disabilities
- **April:** 2-1-1s and Aging and Disability Resource Centers: Partnership Success
- **May:** Introduction to LGBT Aging
- **June:** Tools for Life, Acquisition of Assistive Technology and Devices and Services

NASUADiQ.org

Online training modules for Aging and Disability I&R

- I&R/A Services and the Aging Network
- Developing Cultural Competence to Serve a Diverse Aging Population Essential Components of the Aging I&R/A Process
- Key Programs and Services for Older Adults
- Introduction to Independent Living Movement
- Housing for Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities
- HCBS Taxonomy
- Medicare and Medicaid 101
- Affordable Care Act

www.naduasiq.org

The New CIRS-A/D

CIRS-Aging and Disability Certification

- Job Task Analysis with a group from Aging and Disability Services (October/November 2013)
 - Worked with a group of Subject Matter Experts – frontline/managerial staff from Aging and Disability sectors to analyze work of I&R Specialists.
- Findings were validated based on a survey of CIRS-A certified specialists.
- Clear that there is a need for training and certification that includes a focus on disability services.
- Looked at current CIRS-A questions and threw out aging centric/irrelevant to make room for broader aging and disability questions
- 2014 ABCs of I&R have a new chapter focused on disability services
- New CIRS-A/D expected in later October 2014

I'm CIRS-A

How do I get my CIRS-A/D?

- www.nasuadiq.org will host a Disability 101 Training for CIRS-A Certified I&R Specialists
- CIRS-A holders can update their certification at anytime before 2 year renewal is due.
- CIRS-A holders should:
 - Review ABCs or I&R chapter focused on disability services
 - Take the 1 hour training
 - Complete and pass quiz
 - Unlimited attempts to take quiz (incorrect answers will be explained at the end of the quiz)
 - Send certificate to AIRS

Introduction to Disability Training



Contact:

Kelsey Walter kwalter@nasuad.org

Erin White ewhite@nasuad.org