



## **CLOSING THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE GAP FOR MEDICARE PART D: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

### **MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN ENROLLMENT NOV. 15 – DEC. 30!**

Enrollment in the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan will take place between November 15 to December 30, 2010. Enrollment assistance will be provided at the Area 10 Agency on Aging, 7500 W. Reeves Road in Ellettsville. Appointments should be scheduled in advance by calling 812-876-3383. If you have questions about the Medicare Part D program, please contact Holly McLaughlin at 812-876-3383, ext. 522, or Nancy Woolery at the City of Bloomington Community & Family Resources Department at 812-349-3851.

### **THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT OF 2010 CONTAINS SOME IMPORTANT BENEFITS FOR MEDICARE RECIPIENTS:**

- **Most Medicare drug plans have a coverage gap** (*“the donut hole”*). This means that after you and your plan have spent a certain amount for covered drugs, you are responsible to pay all drug costs out-of-pocket (up to a limit). Your monthly Explanation of Benefits notice tells you how much you’ve spent on covered drug costs and whether you’ve entered the coverage gap.
- **If you have Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage, and aren’t already getting Medicare Extra Help, Medicare will automatically send you a tax free, one-time \$250 Rebate check** when you reach the coverage gap in 2010 to help with the drugs you must pay for entirely out-of-pocket.
- **This is automatic -- there are no forms to fill out.** Medicare will automatically send a check that is made out to you. You DO NOT need to provide any personal information like your Medicare, Social Security, or bank account numbers to get the rebate check.
- Checks will be mailed monthly throughout the year as beneficiaries reach the coverage gap. If you don’t receive your rebate check at that time, contact Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).
- **The rebates are processed automatically. Do not give any personal information out on the telephone to anyone** who tries to obtain it from you, claiming to be handling the \$250 Rebate check. Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) if you are the victim of a fraudulent phone call.
- **Beginning in 2011, seniors in the gap will receive a 50 percent discount on brand name drugs and a 7 percent discount on generic drugs.**
- The discounts will increase each year, closing the coverage gap by 2020.