

OPEN
ENROLLMENT
10/15 - 12/7



Greetings and Happy Fall!

It's hard to believe that it's Autumn and that the Annual Open Enrollment period is here. As you research your best health insurance options, watch out for scammers! Please see the back page to learn what CMS health insurance brokers cannot do.

We will not have our monthly meeting in October, I hope to "see you" all at CONVENTION!

A friendly reminder that the COVID numbers are increasing, please continue to practice social distancing and wash your hands. And remember to get some fresh air, the mornings are brisk, the leaves are changing colors, time for sweaters and hot cocoa!

Please remember to report your monthly hours by the 5th of every month. We need those numbers for our report. We need the date, location, time spent, and number of people reached. You can email Joani on the [forms](#) she emailed out or call me at 1-518-275-8812.

Stay Safe and thank you for all you do!

Beth Nelson, Director NYS SMP

VOLUNTEERS

Make a difference in your community—

**Hear from SMP Volunteer
Arnie Nelson**

REMINDERS

Each October, Medicare sends out the Medicare & You handbook full of information and resources you may need about Medicare. You can also sign up for it electronically at [MyMedicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov).

Do not give out personal information to someone who calls you. Here are the numbers to verify:

- Medicare
1-800-633-4227
- Social Security
1-800-772-1213
- Internal Revenue Service
1-800-829-1040

Open Enrollment can quickly become an "Open Season" for scammers. Watch out for people who:

- Market plans prior to October 1.
- Imply they are associated with Medicare.
- Solicit potential enrollees door-to-door.
- Send unsolicited text messages or voicemail messages.
- Market or conduct sales activities in apartment and residential settings outside of the recreational or conference rooms.
- Promote one aspect of the overall plan, such as just the drug plan.
- Ask for credit card, banking information, your Medicare or Social Security number to receive information.
- Offer you gifts to enroll in a plan.
- Use high pressure sales tactics and/or incorrect information for example:
 - ⇒ Threaten that your Medicare may end if you don't enroll
 - ⇒ Say you must enroll by a certain date.

**CALL
US!**

If you have any questions, **StateWide has certified counselors that provide free and unbiased advice on health care options.**

Call 800-333-4374



Meet SMP Volunteer Arnie Nelson

I am a HUD Service Coordinator, currently working in a senior/disabled building in

Tonawanda NY. Medicare Scams are so prevalent, being a SMP volunteer, allows me to receive constant updates, & provide the residents with useful information.

I am also an Exempt volunteer firefighter with the Cleveland Hill Fire Department, and once the members can hold meetings, I plan on discussing Medicare Fraud. Not only at my fire hall, but with all the local fire department exempt members.

Finally, to all the SMP volunteers, keep up the good work! There are many seniors who desperately need the information we share with them.

- SMP Volunteer since 11/2019



OCT 13-15, 2020. Visit nysenior.org to register for the convention!

STATE  WIDE

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