SIP *** MONTHLY



Greetings,

Our SMP Volunteer ZOOM meetings have been a great way to stay in touch with each other. Our last meeting in the "virtual sun" was fun and informative. If you haven't been able to attend our past meetings, try to join us in September. We always focus on a current SMP topic and you never know what games we might play!

I am very thankful for the guest speakers we have had attend the meetings: Kathleen Otte (ACL Regional Administrator), Thomas Bane (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and SMP liaison), Wayne Abramovich (Project Officer, ACL and SMP mentor) and Maria Alvarez (Executive Director, NY StateWide Senior Action Council). Thank you so much for all the great information that you share with us!

NY StateWide's annual **CONVENTION** is right around the corner. StateWide members and SMP volunteers can attend for free. For more information about the convention, you can call us or visit our website. The convention promises to be another great event, and I hope to "see" you there!

Stay safe and well,

Beth Nelson, NYS SMP Director

ISSUE NO. 9 | SEP 2020 |

VOLUNTEERS

Make a difference in your community—

Hear from SMP Volunteer Elizabeth Campbell

REMINDERS



Be on the LOOKOUT for Contact Tracing Scams. Contact Tracers:

- ARE State Dept. of Health employees or their contractors.
- ONLY ask about personal symptoms and individuals a person has come into contact with.
- ARE NOT responsible for setting up a beneficiary's COVID test.
- NEVER collect payments for COVID tests.



Medicare Fraud Helpline 800-333-4374

It's Time to Register for the NY StateWide Virtual Convention

Here are some of the details:

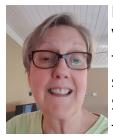
- This year, the StateWide Convention will be held via ZOOM.
- The theme is "Turning Lemons into Lemonade."
- Participants may join via computer or by telephone.
- All StateWide members and SMP volunteers can attend the convention at NO COST!
- You must be a StateWide member to attend the Speak Out, Vote on the Federal and Legislative Agendas, and Executive Board Elections.
- There will be a Public Policy Speak Out on 9/29, 10 AM (members only)
- Adoption of State and Federal Agendas on 10/9, Noon (members only)
- Executive Board Elections on 10/13, 9 AM (members only)
- Workshops and Presentations on 10/13 to 10/15 <u>featuring a panel on Protecting</u> <u>Yourself and Others from Scams.</u>

If you are not a StateWide member, you can join TODAY. Click <u>HERE</u> to join.

If you are a StateWide member and would like to register for the convention, click HERE.

If you have any questions, e-mail Gail Myers at statewide4@gmail.com.

Meet SMP Volunteer Elizabeth Campbell



Liz was an SMP Volunteer in Virginia since 2015 supporting the City of Richmond and the surrounding three county area. She made SMP presentations to various senior community

organizations & distributed materials at local health fairs.

Liz moved to Lewiston in 2018. She connected with the SMP program and New York StateWide Senior Action Council and became an SMP volunteer covering mostly Niagara County. Since then she has met with other senior organizations to present on Medicare Fraud and visits many senior housing facilities throughout the county to distribute SMP fraud materials and meet the residents.

"It is very gratifying to meet seniors in my new community to share information and make them more aware of health care fraud. SMP volunteers help beneficiaries protect their identity and Medicare benefits, as well as reduce the loss of resources in the national Medicare program."

- Elizabeth Campbell, NYS SMP volunteer since January 2019



New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc. 275 State Street, Albany, NY 12210 • 800-333-4374 • Fax (518) 436-7642