



### Greetings,

Yes, It's already November! And it is the time of year to look back at all our blessings and be thankful.

I feel blessed, not only to have a great family, and a wonderful SW team family, but to be able to work with such a fantastic group of SMP volunteers. Individually, you all hold special talents -but as a team, you are the BEST!

Please remember to take some time and count your blessings, you may surprise yourself and find out you may have more than you thought.

Many scams have not changed this year, back braces, genetic testing and of course Medicare Card Scams. Medicare Card scams are the same, just a new twist. Now people are getting phone calls that Medicare cards are being replaced with new Medicare Cards with a CHIP, we know that is not true.

And as this year starts to wind down, we will continue to educate the community on the latest scams, to be on the lookout for new scams and keep our communities scam free.

Happy Fall!

Beth Nelson, NYS SMP Director

### VOLUNTEERS

Make a difference in your community—

Hear from SMP Volunteer  
Cliff Goodman

### REMINDERS

**The StateWide 2020  
Virtual Convention is  
now online!**

- If you missed the convention or would like to re-watch some of the panels, visit our website at [nysenior.org](https://www.nysenior.org).
- We have a volunteer video featuring a few wonderful SMP volunteers. You can view it [HERE](#).

**Our next Volunteer  
ZOOM Meeting will  
be on November 20,  
11 AM. More details  
to come.**

## Don't Fall Victim to Another Medicare Card Scam

It's a common mishap to fall for a scheme, and with relentless scammers, it can happen to anyone. Here are the details of one woman's experience:

- Friday morning, she received a call, it sounded like a solicitation call, so she hung up, but the phone rang again.
- This time the scammer said "Don't hang up. I'm not selling anything. I just need to verify the information on your Medicare card."
- Caught off guard, she answered a series of questions: confirmed her name, address, and Medicare card number.
- The scammer even asked how often do you go to the doctor and tracked down the woman's physician and the dates of her previous appointments.
- When the woman asked why do you need this information, the scammer said they were issuing 2021 Medicare cards.
- The fraudster said Medicare is replacing paper cards with plastic ones. Plastic chip cards are also being offered, but that is also not true.

Remember to remind beneficiaries in your community that:

1. Medicare will never call you asking for information or money.
2. Medicare is NOT issuing new 2021 plastic or chip cards.
3. Don't trust your caller ID. Spoofing Caller ID is a common tactic scammers use.

Source: [smpresource.org/News](http://smpresource.org/News)

## Meet SMP Volunteer Cliff Goodman



I live in New City, Rockland County for the last 35 years.

Besides my career in Human Resources Management, I have been volunteering for the last 40 years.

Most of my time volunteering has been with the New City Volunteer Ambulance Corps. and since retirement 7 years ago, for the Rockland County Sheriff as Vice President of TRIAD.

Two years ago, I was appointed to the Rockland County Department of Aging Advisory Committee. I have served as President, and VP of the New City Senior Club.

I joined the Senior Medicare Patrol last year and found that it was a good fit for me. I enjoy making presentations and sharing my knowledge about scams and health care fraud with other seniors in my community.

I also teach Canasta for seniors at RC Parks and Recreation.

- SMP Volunteer since Dec 2019

### Patient Advocates Program Webinar Teach in (NOV.):



SMP Director Beth Nelson and Outreach Counselor Leslie Sierra will explore the latest health care scams. You can register by clicking [HERE](#).

**STATE  WIDE**

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