

SMP MONTHLY

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REMINDERS



Join us for the SMP
Volunteer Meeting on
February 17 at 11:00 AM.

Topic: Nursing Home Fraud

- To join by computer
Click [HERE](#)
- To join by phone dial
646-558-8656, Meeting
ID: 533 682 2516



Hi everyone,

Its continuing to be a busy time this February and we hope that you are receiving our weekly emails—The Weekly Roundup—that gives you up to date information on current issues and upcoming events. On Friday, we had our first budget briefing and if you missed it, you can view the recording [HERE](#).

Our February Fraud of the Month will cover Nursing Home Fraud and will be featured in this newsletter, newspaper ads, toolkit and volunteer meeting on the 17th. We also want to share a recent article and radio interview about AG James suing for fraud against owners of Nursing Homes in NYS. The owners of some nursing homes have been making millions in profits while receiving generous payments and loans from the federal government during the pandemic. (The article and NPR radio are on page 2.)

Last but definitely not least, we have some very exciting news—**SMP Coordinator Tiffany Erhard is the recipient of the SMP Finest Award!** You can read more about this **prestigious national award** in this newsletter.

Have a great week and stay warm out there!

- NY StateWide Senior Action Council Staff



Are You Taking Advantage of Your Preventive Services?

Annual wellness visits, screenings, and other preventive services are a great way to stay on top of your health—and Medicare covers most of them.



Talk to your doctor to find out what services may be right for you.

Find out what Medicare covers: www.medicare.gov/coverage/preventive-screening-services

If you have any questions, our certified counselors are ready to help!

Medicare Fraud Helpline 800-333-4374

Nursing Home Fraud

Medicare doesn't generally pay for long-term nursing home care. However, Medicare Part A covers medically necessary, short-term care in a skilled nursing facility (SNF) often located within a nursing home. **Because of the complexity of SNF coverage, Medicare is often a target for fraud, errors and abuse. Be aware of these fraud examples:**

- You are forced to remain in a SNF until your Part A benefits have expired even though your condition has improved and you wish to change to home health care services
- You see on your Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or Explanation of Benefits (EOB) charges for:
 - ⇒ Services that were not deemed medically necessary by your doctor.
 - ⇒ Therapy services or visits that were billed to Medicare but were not provided.
 - ⇒ More expensive services than what you were provided.
 - ⇒ Skilled nursing services for dates after you were released from the SNF

For information on what we can do to stop nursing home fraud, please review our latest [FLYER HERE](#).

Listen to the Jan 31, 2023 NPR interview:

[New York's AG is suing for fraud after some nursing home owners took large profits.](#)

And this companion print article with additional details about the fraud in NY—[Nursing home owners drained cash while residents deteriorated, state filings suggest](#)



Tiffany Erhard is the recipient of the SMP FRAUD PREVENTION FINEST AWARD for February 2023!

The Fraud Prevention's Finest award goes to an SMP team member who consistently excels in casework, outreach, or partnership models best practices and encourages their SMP peers to improve upon their efforts in these areas.

“Tiffany is an extremely thoughtful, professional, conscientious, detail oriented member of our team. Her commitment and enthusiasm to our community's wellbeing is a great part of what makes our NYS SMP program a success! - Maria Alvarez

Many people told SMP National that they have seen our outreach efforts, thanked them for the information and are happy that there is a place to call to report these things. Great job Tiffany, we are so proud to have you on the SMP Team!



Jan 24, 2023
It's always a good day when you're out with the Brooklyn community!
Maria Alvarez, DEI Coordinator,

Dawn Copper-Nieves and SMP volunteer Ken Luft met with City Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse and a group of older adults from the Canarsie neighborhood to discuss fraud and to identify future projects for their community.

STATE WIDE

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