



Caregiver Tip of the Month – October 2012

Notes from Area Agency on Aging of North Idaho

Use the Internet to Explore Options

It's called "open enrollment". It is October 15 – December 7 and is the time when all Medicare beneficiaries should review their health care plans and Rx Part D plans for the coming year. You can help parents see if their current plans meet their current medical needs at the best cost. Companies change benefits and adjust premiums. You can review the plans on the internet at www.medicare.gov. Click on the yellow bar "Find Health and Drug Plans" and go to the "General Search" and put in your zip code. You can put in your drugs and dosages to see how various companies would cover your drugs and review the hospital and medical costs they cover.

There are locations throughout the area that offer help sorting through the online data. Call Area Agency on Aging, 667-3179, ext.272, and leave a message to schedule a personal Medicare appointment or you can call Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) at 1-800-488-5725 for an appointment at a other counseling locations.

Area Agency on Aging provides services, supports and information on local resources all year long to support the aging population. Contact Betsy Bullard, Area Agency on Aging, at 667-3179, ext. 222, or email infoassist@aaani.org to find out more about these topics and other resources or visit our website at www.aaani.org.

Area Agency on Aging of North Idaho