### **Donating to SHINE**

There is no fee for SHINE services, but donations are welcome. Please send donations to:

**SHINE Program** LifePath, Inc. 101 Munson Street. Suite 201 Greenfield. MA 01301

### **Additional Information**

Medicare open enrollment (October 15–December 7) is the time to enroll in or change your Medicare coverage for the upcoming year. Contact LifePath for more information.

In October, if you are a member of a Medicare prescription drug plan or a Medicare Advantage plan, you will receive information in the mail about changes to your current plan. Save this information and bring it, along with your prescription drug list and Medicare card, to your SHINE appointment. Contact LifePath for more information or contact Medicare directly at 1-800-MEDICARE.



At LifePath, we listen first, and then help each person find the best options for their unique needs. We help elders and persons with disabilities maintain independence and quality of life in their own homes and communities. We help caregivers to find relief and help loved ones to choose the right path.

For over 40 years, we've been offering options for independence. We welcome all people regardless of race, physical appearance or ability, sex, age, nationality or ancestry, class, religious or political beliefs, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

LifePath, a private, nonprofit corporation, serves Franklin County plus Athol, Petersham, Phillipston, and Royalston. Some of LifePath programs extend into Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester counties.

LifePath, Inc., is an Area Agency on Aging and Aging Services Access Point funded in part by the federal Older Americans Act. Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Massachusetts Council on Aging, MassHealth Office of Long-Term Care, United Way of Franklin County, and other sources both public and private. LifePath is operated by a local volunteer board of directors, a majority of whom are, by law, elders. As an AA/EOE employer, LifePath does not discriminate in program admissions, access, services, or employment practices.

Updated November 2018





## Western Massachusetts **SHINE Program**

Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone

A Service of LifePath. Inc.

101 Munson Street, Suite 201, Greenfield, MA 01301 413-773-5555 | 978-544-2259 | 800-732-4636 TDD 413-772-6566 | Fax 413-772-1084 Elder Protective Services 24/7 Hotline: 800-922-2275 info@LifePathMA.org | LifePathMA.org





### Do you have questions about the following health insurance information?

- Medicare
- Medicare Advantage plans (Medicare HMOs, PPOs)
- Insurance claim forms
- Medicare supplements ("Medigap")
- Medicaid/MassHealth
- Prescription Advantage
- Medicare prescription drug plans
- One Care plans
- Health insurance options
- Prescription drug options
- Long-term-care insurance
- Senior Care Options

#### The SHINE Program can help.



"SHINE is a wonderful service, and it takes devoted volunteers. A volunteer helped my father and me when I was living in Ashfield." "This help was invaluable! I'm turning 65 and was completely confused about my health insurance options—the counselors were clear, effective, and fully confirmed. Thank you SHINE!"



# What is the SHINE Program?

- The SHINE Program is a state health insurance program that provides free, one-on-one health insurance information, counseling, and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries of all ages.
- SHINE is made up of a network of volunteers trained and certified by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs in partnership with elder network agencies.

# How can a SHINE counselor help you?

#### SHINE counselors:

- Review your current coverage
- Review your eligibility for financial assistance
- Provide health insurance plan comparisons
- Help prepare health benefit claim forms and applications

# Becoming a SHINE volunteer

For information on how to become a trained SHINE counselor in your community, contact Lorraine York-Edberg, Western Massachusetts SHINE program director, at 800-498-4232 or lyork-edberg@LifePathMA.org.

