

Medicare: Services Not Covered
Hawaii awarded Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Grant
Volunteer Spotlight & New Coordinator on Board

New grant enables SMP to advance DEI efforts in Hawaii

SMP Hawaii, under the Hawaii State Department of Health, Executive Office on Aging, received one of five \$150,000 grants to promote cultural awareness, support and competence to advance diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in our work. Hawaii's efforts will contribute toward developing best practices nationwide.

See Page 2: SMP Hawaii wins DEI grant

It Takes an Entire State to Protect Our Kupuna - Join the Fight Today!

Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP), Hawaii State Department of Health, Executive Office on Aging



Kukui Gram

Kukui Nut (candlenut) is highly revered as Hawaii's State Tree. The Kukui nut oil used in lamps, brings light to darkness. Kukui represents wisdom, protection and peace.

Celebrating 25 Years of Protecting Hawaii's Kupuna

Kukui Gram provides information to help kupuna to avoid being scammed and to report any suspicious activity.

It takes a village to raise a child, but it takes an entire state to protect our beloved kupuna...so join the fight!

Please send us your stories to share.
 Next issue: January 2023.
 Deadline: 12/01/2022. Mahalo!

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Be Vigilant about Healthcare Fraud

To learn more, contact SMP Hawaii to request free presentations listed below:

Medicare: What's Not Covered

According to AARP (5/24/22), there are eight common services that kupuna need but are NOT covered by Medicare.

Optician Services Routine Eye Exams Glasses/Eyewear	Routine Hearing Tests/Hearing Aids
Routine Dental	Overseas Care
Chiropractic Care	Routine Foot Care
Cosmetic Surgery	Long Term Care

Routine Vision, Hearing, and Dental: Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C) offer benefits for an additional cost. Medicare Advantage Plans in Hawaii: HMSA, Kaiser, Humana, United Health Care, Wellcare by Ohana and AlohaCare.

Overseas Care: Medicare Advantage plans will only cover urgent or emergency services. Medigap plans may cover other services received overseas.

Chiropractic Care: Medicare Advantage plans may offer chiropractic, naturopathic and acupuncture benefits.

Routine Foot Care: Only covered if doctor says it is medically necessary.

Cosmetic Surgery: Only covered if doctor says it is medically necessary.

Long Term Care: Not covered by Medicare Parts A & B or Medicare Advantage plans (Part C).

The state **Medicaid** program pays for long term care for eligible individuals who qualify based on income and assets and meet medical necessity.

Long-term care insurance policies from an insurance company cover nursing home stays when bathing, dressing, toileting, feeding, and other activities of daily living become too difficult and unsafe to do at home.

What do you need to be aware of when choosing a Medicare plan?

- If a Medicare Advantage plan agent says long term care is a benefit, be careful. Review costs and benefits and ask questions before enrolling.
- Compare benefits, premiums, copay amounts and deductibles of other plans to be sure you get a plan that meets your needs for the best value.
- Check the plan's national star rating.

Health insurance is complicated. Check facts now to avoid future issues. Don't wait until after a medical crisis. If you think you bought a policy under false terms, call SMP Hawaii to report.

Mahalo Volunteer Mark for doing the research and writing this article.

Take Charge! Help Prevent Healthcare Fraud and Abuse
Sharpen the Fraud Fighter in Us
Fight Avoid Medicare and COVID-19 Scams

Understand Prescription Drug Fraud: Diversion & Abuse
Partner with the Federal Trade Commission to Join the
Make the Most of Your Medicare Benefits and Services

Volunteer Spotlight: Enhancing SMP's Brand Online

This issue highlights the valuable contributions of Louise Johnson, who joined as an SMP volunteer in July 2021, and whose impact was felt almost immediately.

Her social media (Facebook) skills, initiative and can-do spirit help to spread the word about SMP's mission and purpose to protect kupuna and their legacy.

For 39 years, she worked in the pharmaceutical industry, seeking approval for clinical trials, and drug and biologic products from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

She volunteered as a job coach with the YWCA of Honolulu, at a memory care hospital and provided ham radio support to community events.

"I enjoy helping our older adults of Hawaii to protect themselves from Medicare scams through my roles as a presenter and also as a counselor," she says.

"SMP has great training and support, along with a vast network of resources, experts and fellow volunteers."



smphawaii808

SMP Hawaii gears up to advance DEI in next 18 months

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Hawaii is keeping company with California, Massachusetts, New York and North Dakota as recipients of the grant that focuses on building competency around diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Although each group may define DEI differently, in general, this is the type of work that helps to mend a society that has been hurt by discrimination, racism, sexism, ableism and prejudice.

If you are well-versed with DEI and want to help to ensure Hawaii's report and findings are a stellar representation of our people, community and society, please contact us today.

SMP Needs More Volunteers as In-Person Events Resume



L to R: Volunteers Becka Myungok and Grace, team up with staff Norma Kop and Jeffrey Woodland, to extend SMP's message at the 2022 Young at Heart Expo at the Neal Blaisdell Center last month - the largest senior in-person event on Oahu since 2020.



SMP Hawaii welcomes Jeff Woodland, MSW, as its new Volunteer Coordinator (VC). His responsibilities include coordination and collaboration with volunteers, staff and others to develop and maintain the SMP volunteer program. Jeff previously served with the Hawaii Department of Human Services (DHS), Child Welfare/Adult and Community Care Services for 25 years. "SMP Hawaii is an amazing group of people. I am honored to join the team," he said. "I look forward to meeting our valuable volunteers and learn how to support each of them to reach more kupuna." With the focus on high quality volunteering, technology and its newest DEI initiatives (see related article on page 1), Jeff will be instrumental in developing both new and current team members to achieve specific goals and objectives.

Calendar of Events – Happy Holiday Season!

Oct. 13	10:00 – 11:30 am	*20/22 Webinar Series – <i>Caregiving: Perspectives & Profiles to Empower</i> . A Network for Our Shared Journey/Monthly Volunteer Team Meeting
Oct. 15	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Mililani Town Center Senior Fair - MRC 5
Oct. 17	9:30 - 10:30 am	Moanalua Senior Club Kupuna Alert Partners (KAP) Presentation
Oct. 22-23	10:00 am - 5:00 pm	Pearlridge Senior Lifestyle & 'Ohana Fair
Nov. 10	10:00 – 11:30 am	*Monthly Volunteer Team Meeting
Nov. 17	9:45 - 10:45 am	Koolau Senior Hui
Dec 15	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	*EOA/AEOS Annual Volunteer Tribute & Training

***Click Link Below to Register to attend events by Zoom**

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMtce-spzgoHtM4sglANWgzd8iIeaIJBvz9>

Email: info@smphawaii.org or call: 808-226-4077 for any questions.

Protecting Kupuna Since 1997

Join SMP and help kupuna to prevent, detect and report healthcare fraud and scams. Volunteers learn at their own pace, and stay safe, active and informed. Make a difference today!

808-586-7281

Toll Free: 1-800-296-9422



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