



Spring/Summer 2015

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST STATE SHINE STAFF MEMBER



Introducing...**Sandra Bowden**, the SHINE Program Coordinator, who joined the State staff in March!

“My name is Sandra Bowden and I grew up in Honduras, Central America. I came to the United States 21 Years ago, graduated from Roxbury Community College with an associate degree in Business, and later went to UMass Boston. I worked for the Bank of America for 14 years and at Whittier Street Health Center in Roxbury for 5 years, assisting consumers with public benefits. I enjoy taking my 2 boys, 14 and 8 years old, to their basketball and football games, going to the movies, reading and going to social events. I also love to travel whenever my kids’ busy schedule allows me to.”

Sandra will be working on outreach for One Care and to communities which are underserved due to the fact that English is not the primary language of its residents. Sandra is fluent in Spanish! Her contact information is listed in the staff section at the end of The Beacon.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to new SHINE counselors and to seasoned counselors who have recertified!

You are all highly skilled, elite volunteers who consistently go above and beyond what is required in a typical volunteer position! Thank you so much for all you do for SHINE consumers!

[Client Contact Form](#)

ACL is **not** collecting information from the “Dual Eligible with Mental Illness/Mental Disability” section of the Client Contact Form so it is no longer necessary for SHINE counselors to collect this. You may check off the “*not collected box*” until the wording is deleted from the next version of the Client Contact Form.

[PRESCRIPTION ADVANTAGE Updates](#)

1)Rate Sheet

New Prescription Advantage Rate Sheet has been updated effective April 1, 2015, it is posted on Common Resources.

2)Prescription Advantage “real life” story:

A consumer taking a \$6,000.00 drug will pay \$976.80 (which is 33% of \$2,960 for a tier 5 drug) in the Initial Coverage Period, and will pay \$1,368 (45%) in the Coverage Gap/Donut Hole. ***With Prescription Advantage, the consumer taking this drug would only pay \$18.00/month in the Coverage Gap/Donut Hole!!*** S/he would continue paying \$18.00/month until reaching the Catastrophic Coverage Phase. Without Prescription Advantage, the consumer taking this expensive drug would have paid \$1,368 in the Coverage Gap – that’s a savings of \$1,350!

[Medigap Chart Update](#)

Humana updated its Core and Supplement 1 rates and United Health Care has updated its Supplement 1 rate. Please refer to Common Resources for the updated chart.

[Medicare Card Replacement](#)

To order new Medicare cards, beneficiaries will now need to use their “my Social Security” account portal. In the past, beneficiaries were able to order a card by entering information into the site without logging into their “my Social Security” account. Moving forward, if they do not have an account they will need to create one to make this request or call SSA directly to order the replacement card. This demonstrates another reason for beneficiaries to set up a “my Social Security” account!

[MassHealth UPDATES](#)

1)ACA-3 Application Updates

The ACA-3 application has been updated as of March 2015, and though a few changes have been made, it is still called the **ACA-3**. ***Be certain you are using the 3/15 version of the ACA-3.*** The Spanish version of the ACA-3 has not been revised.

2)MassHealth: Where to Send What

All SACA-2 applications should now be sent to the Central Processing Unit in Charlestown. This includes: Community, Long Term Care, Nursing Home, and Health Safety Net applications. ACA-3 applications should be mailed to the Health Insurance Processing Center in Taunton or faxed to 857-323-8300. **The “Where to Send What” sheet has been updated on Common Resources on the SHINE website.**

3) MassHealth Buy-In Income limit reminder for QI-1

The “pink sheet” lists the income limit as \$1345 for QI-1, but note that a consumer’s income must be **below \$1345**. This is consistent with the MassHealth Buy-in application for 2015.

[CMS “Understanding Medicare” Webinar Training Session for Continuing Education Credit \(CEU\)](#)

This training session provides an overview of Medicare basics (A, B, C, D) and other programs to assist consumers with costs associated with Medicare. The CEU Webinar is on June 16 and 18 from 1:00-3:00pm on both days. There are specific requirements to earn CEU’s. Those who do not need to earn CEU’s can also participate in the “Understanding Medicare” webinar. If you are interested in attending, contact Barbara Deveau at the State SHINE office (contact info. listed below) for the specifics, or you may also contact your Regional Director.

[Attachments:](#)

P.A. Rate Sheet

Updated Medigap Chart

Where To Send What for MassHealth

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| Contact SHINE State Staff |
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