Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) Presentation
October 19, 2018

Overview of HICAP
1. General Information
   a. HICAP is part of a nationwide network of State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP). In California, the SHIP is named HICAP.
   b. HICAP provides Medicare counseling and advocacy to current Medicare beneficiaries as well as those who are imminently eligible.
   c. Local HICAP services are managed by 26 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and provided throughout California.
   d. For more information about HICAP, refer to Section 9541 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code or the California Department of Aging’s website.

2. Eligibility
   a. Medicare beneficiaries and those who are imminently eligible.

3. Evolution of SHIP to Serve Medi-Cal (federally known as Medicaid) Beneficiaries
   a. The introduction of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) expanded the SHIP’s role.

Overview of MIPPA
1. General Information
   a. MIPPA provides targeted funding to three priority areas (SHIPs, AAAs, and ADRCs) for counseling/educating about Medicare Preventive Services and conducting outreach and enrollment of low-income Medicare beneficiaries for:
      i. Low Income Subsidy (LIS) – A Social Security program that provides assistance with the cost of prescriptions and Medicare Part D plans.
      ii. Medicare Savings Program (MSP) – A Medi-Cal program that provides assistance with Medicare cost-sharing expenses, including deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments.
      iii. Medicaid benefits for dually eligible beneficiaries

2. Programmatic and Funding Relations to ADRC
   a. ADRCs receive MIPPA funding based on the number of Medicare Part D beneficiaries in the ADRC coverage area.
b. As a convenient point-of-entry for older adults and adults with disabilities, the ADRCs are valuable partners to the AAA and HICAP for reaching out to Medicare and dually eligible beneficiaries.

3. Role of the ADRC with MIPPA Funding
   a. Provide outreach to Medicare and dually eligible beneficiaries regarding Medicare Part D, LIS, MSP, and Medicare Preventive Services
   b. Provide one-on-one contacts that involve discussion (including information and/or referral) regarding Medicare Part D, LIS, MSP, and Medicaid benefits (for dually eligible beneficiaries).

4. Examples of Services Provided by ADRCs with MIPPA Funds
   a. Outreach (e.g. information booths, social media, etc.)
   b. Development and distribution of handouts
   c. Printing LIS and MSP information on prescription bags
   d. Provide general information by phone or in-person and conduct a “warm-transfer” to a local HICAP, Social Security, and/or Medi-Cal office.