Open enrollment for Medicare Part D opened on Friday (Oct. 15). CareLink, Central Arkansas's Agency on Aging, announced they will be providing free Medicare Part D reviews. Elise Hensley, the care coordination manager with CareLink, said that the agency assists senior adults and their community needs by providing various programs. Hensely says eight agencies across Arkansas are focused on helping seniors stay independent as long as they can.

News06 0:22 "...to do that."

Medicare is a public health insurance for individuals 65 or older, while Medicare Part D relates to covering prescription drugs. Hensely explained that open enrollment is important to making sure seniors don't have to pay expensive out of pocket costs.

News07 0:27 "...drugs get covered."

Hensley says most Medicare beneficiaries are usually on a fixed income, meaning new prescriptions can force them to choose to go without either medicine or food. She also said that reviewing a Medicare plan every year is essential to making sure the plan still fits. CareLink will be open for Medicare Part D reviews until Dec. 7. The reviews are available via phone, Zoom, or in-person.

Open enrollment for Medicare Part D opened on Friday (Oct. 15). CareLink, Central Arkansas's Agency on Aging is shifting its focus to providing free reviews for Medicare beneficiaries to ensure their plan still fits them and covers all their costs. Medicare, a public health insurance for individuals 65 or older, includes several parts. Part D covers prescription drugs a beneficiary might need. The Care Coordination Manager with CareLink, Elise Hensley, explained that a review includes evaluating an individual's needs and seeing what they qualify for.

News08

0:24

"...any assistance programs."

Hensley says CareLink counselors are not affiliated with any specific plan and are flexible to a beneficiary's preference. Hensley said this diligence on reviewing Medicare Part D can prevent expensive out of pocket costs.

News09

0:25

"...available to you."

CareLink will be offering reviews until Dec. 7. The reviews are available via phone, Zoom, or in-person. To attend an in-person appointment, individuals must wear a mask and complete a COVID-19 screening.