

# RESPONSE NEEDED

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AGING DIVISION

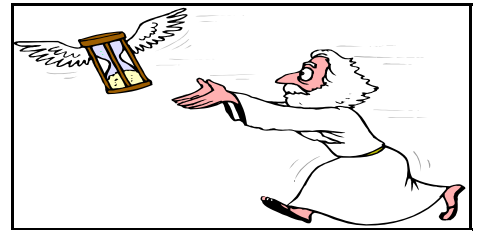
# HICBS NEWS

The Medicaid pharmacy program is implementing many new initiatives to aid them in controlling the huge increases in the cost of prescription drugs. The prior authorization of some medications and now the pharmacy lock-in program are some of the new efforts in that direction.

We are going to be doing some brain-storming about how we can best help our LTC/HCBS Waiver clients to use their medication benefit wisely. I would like to have your thoughts on what kind of assistance from the pharmacy program you feel would help your client to be a good health care consumer and to not jeopardize their ability to remain in their own home by the mismanagement of their medica-

tions.

Please fill out the questionnaire on page 4 and fax it to our office. We want to make sure that any plans we make will benefit you and, more important, the LTC/HCBS clients. ☺



Lost yesterday,  
Somewhere between sunrise  
and sunset,  
Two golden hours, each set  
with  
60 diamond minutes  
No reward is offered, for



Happy New Year to all of you and your families. If I could have just one wish for this new year it would be that it would only go by half as quickly as last year! I can't remember a time in my life that time has rushed by the way it has the past several years. Please don't tell me it is a symptom of advancing age!

Usually by this time in January we have

all broken our New Year's resolutions but I hope everyone has made a resolution to take better care of yourselves, physically, mentally, and spiritually. You all give so much of yourselves to your clients, coworkers, and family that it is really important to keep that resolution.

Remember, the Case Manager Conference is scheduled for April 9, 10 & 11. ☺

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# SAFE RETURN - Safety and Peace of Mind

Contributed by Charlie Simineo, Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains

## What would you do if the person you were providing case management services for became lost?

It's easy for a person with memory problems to get lost in familiar surroundings. A lost person with Alzheimer's doesn't know which way to turn. There is a program through the Alzheimer's Association that helps get them home. This program is called **Safe Return**.

**Safe Return** is the only nationwide community-based network that enables police, community agencies, and private citizens to identify lost Alzheimer's individuals and to help safely return them home. **Safe Return** provides:

- **Identification Products:** The program participants receive an identification bracelet or necklace, clothing labels and wallet cards. These items are inscribed with the toll-free crisis number and alert others that the individual is memory impaired and may need assistance. Identification bracelets or necklaces are also available for caregivers to wear to alert others to look after the individual if the caregiver becomes incapacitated.
- **National Information/Photo Database:** Registration in a national database that includes important emergency contact information and photograph to help reunite lost individuals with their caregivers no matter where they wander.
- **24 Hour Toll-Free Crisis Line:** A nationwide toll-free number is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to contact when an individual is lost or found.

*The Alzheimer's Association has received a grant to pay the one-time registration fee for Safe return.*

- **Fax Alert Notification System:** A fax alert system is capable of sending missing person information and photos anywhere in the country.

The Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains which provides services in Wyoming has received a grant to pay the one-time \$40 registration fee for **Safe Return**. If you know of anyone with Alzheimer's Disease or a related dementia who could benefit by being registered in the **Safe Return** program, please contact Charlie Simineo at the Alzheimer's Association of the Great Plains in the Cheyenne Office by calling 307-421-7321 or the Alzheimer's Association Toll-free Helpline at 1-800-487-2585. **This grant is available only until June 30, 2003.** &



## MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT CARD

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) plans to have its Medicare prescription drug discount card program operating by September 2003. CMS will begin its outreach to seniors about the program in August 2003. CMS expects that the discount card program will save seniors \$1.6 billion annually on their drug costs, or about \$170 per person. &



## Case Manager Training

10 am - 3 pm

February 11, 2003

(weather permitting)

at

Vinta Senior Citizen's Center

1229 Vinta Street

Evanston, WY

Please call 307.777.7861 to register.

## WHEELCHAIR CLINICS

The Office of Medicaid and ACS are working with several DME providers across the state to hold wheelchair clinics. The purpose of the clinics is to provide the opportunity for our Medicaid eligible clients to have their wheelchairs repaired and refitted. They are hoping to serve as many waiver clients as possible.

The next clinic is scheduled in Rock Springs at the hospital on March 13 and 14, 2003. The DME provider will be Frontier Access and Mobility of Cheyenne. There is no charge to the Medicaid client.

Appointments are being scheduled now. To make an appointment, call Michelle McDonnell, Practitioner Services Manager, at the Office of Medicaid, 307.777.7379.

We are requesting that the Case Managers work with your clients in the southern part of the state to determine if they need repair or refitting of their wheelchairs. We have heard a lot of concern about the availability of wheelchair services and now we have the experts coming out into the communities. Please don't miss this opportunity! ☺

## ODDS 'N ENDS

☞ If you are wanting a quick return to a phone message it is a good idea to leave your phone number. We tend to return the calls that have numbers first and look up the others later.

☞ Please let our office know if your client doesn't make points on the LT101. If you have the information, it also is helpful to know if they plan to ask for a reconsideration. We also need to know the outcome of the reconsiderations.

☞ Remember, you can't renew the Plan of Care if the client is not in the home. If they are in the

nursing home, hospital, or they are out of town let us know and then do the renewal when they return home. Their waiver slot is not affected. Services cannot be given if the client is not in the home. ☺



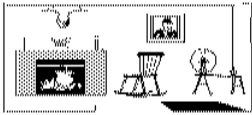
## →Pharmacy Questionnaire←

(Case Managers: Please complete and fax to 307.777.5340 by 2/3/03)

1. Are any of your LTC/HCBS Waiver clients using several pharmacies and would benefit from being "locked in" to one pharmacy? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
2. Do you have any clients who are taking several different medications with the same action?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
3. Do you have any clients who would benefit from a medication review by their doctor or pharmacist?  
Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
4. Would you benefit from being able to consult with someone in the pharmacy program about questions and concerns you have about your client's medications? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_
5. Please list any other assistance you would like to receive from the pharmacy program or any other thoughts you have about reaping the maximum from the use of the pharmacy benefit without additional risk to the health of the client.

Thank you for your help.

### HOME SWEET HOME



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