CHOICES, Connecticut’s State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), is accepting applications for our 2023 New Team Member Training sessions. CHOICES is part of a national network of SHIP agencies that offers free, confidential counseling, education and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries, their caregivers and the general public. CHOICES is administered by the Department of Aging and Disability Services State Unit on Aging in Partnership with Connecticut’s five Area Agencies on aging and the Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc.

CHOICES Team Member Trainings are free for volunteers and $125 for in-kind (paid) professionals. Training participants will complete an orientation session, 6 half days and 2 full days of training, sign the CHOICES Memorandum of Understanding, and take an online certification exam.

Training topics include: Medicare Parts A, B, C and D, Medigap, eligibility, coverage, costs, appeals, coordination of benefits, transitions from other insurance, and cost assistance programs for low-income beneficiaries, including MSP, LIS and Medicaid. Training manuals will be provided.

Expectations of CHOICES Team Members: computer literacy, willing to compare and explain various drug plans and/ or Medicare Advantage plans, provide enrollment assistance through the Medicare Plan Finder tool, assist low-to-modest income beneficiaries to apply for cost assistance programs, report your work monthly and attend quarterly update trainings.

If you would like to make a positive difference in the lives of Connecticut’s Medicare beneficiaries, contact your CHOICES Regional Coordinator. Individuals who may have a conflict of interest such as insurance agents or brokers are unable to participate in the trainings.

**Registration, screening and Approval by Regional Coordinator Require to Attend Training**

**For an application or for questions about the training - please contact the Area Agency on Aging for your Region - contact information is located on the back of this flyer.**

### AVAILABLE TRAININGS IN 2023

**WINTER TRAINING:**
- **Orientation:** February 7th, 9 am - 12 pm
- **Training Dates:** February 21, 23, 28, March 2, 7, & 9 - 9 am - 12 pm; March 14 & 16 - 9 am - 4 pm
- **Application Deadline:** January 24, 2023

**SPRING TRAINING:**
- **Orientation:** April 18th, 9 am - 12 pm
- **Training Dates:** May 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 19 - 9 am - 12 pm; May 23 & 25 - 9 am - 4 pm
- **Application Deadline:** April 4, 2023

**FALL TRAININGS:**
- **Orientation:** August 22nd, 9 am - 12 pm
- **Training Dates:** September 5, 7, 12, 14, 19 & 21 - 9 am - 12 pm; September 26 & 28 - 9 am - 4 pm
- **Application Deadline:** August 8, 2023
To Register, Contact the AAA Regional Coordinator who serves your town:

**Senior Resources Agency on Aging - 860-887-3561**
Regional Coordinator: Laura Crews - ljcrews@seniorresourcesec.org

**North Central Area Agency on Aging - 860-724-6443 Ext. 277**
Regional Coordinator: Urania Reyes - urania.reyes@ncaaact.org

**Agency on Aging of South Central CT - 203-785-8533**
Regional Coordinator: Leslie Pruitt - lpruitt@aoascc.org
**Towns Served:** Ansonia, Bethany, Branford, Derby, East Haven, Guilford, Hamden, Madison, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Oxford, Seymour, Shelton, Wallingford, West Haven and Woodbridge.

**Southwestern CT Agency on Aging - 203-814-3639**
Regional Coordinator: Claire Volain - cvolain@swcaa.org
**Towns Served:** Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport and Wilton.

**Western CT Area Agency on Aging - 203-757-5449 Ext. 126**
Regional Coordinator: Carlyn Mueller - cmmueller@wcaaa.org