



QA QTRLY

FALL 2011

*Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.
F-32 URG, P.O. Box 500
Rio Grande, Ohio 45674-0500*

*Assistance. Advocacy. Answers on Aging.
Pamela K. Matura, Executive Director*

*1-800-582-7277
TTY 1-888-270-1550
www.aaa7.org*

Dear Provider:

In an effort to improve care coordination for waiver participants and support your compliance with OAC 5101:3-12-01, the PASSPORT Administrative Agencies (PAA) implemented a statewide clinical process in ODA-administered waivers on 7/1/2011.

This process includes:

- Obtaining a copy of the Home Health agency's plan of care when waiver participants are receiving Medicaid home health services and documenting this information on the waiver service plan; and
- Making a referral, when appropriate, for Medicaid home health services for waiver participants who have home health needs but are not currently receiving the service.

The process does not:

- Require every waiver participant to utilize the maximum Medicaid Home Health Service benefit before accessing any waiver services or
- Prohibit a waiver participant from receiving both Medicaid Home Health and waiver services; or
- Require a waiver participant to only receive services from an ODA certified provider who is also a Medicare/Medicaid certified home health agency.

We appreciate your continued partnership to ensure waiver participants have access to and receive the most appropriate services needed to support home and community living.

Sincerely,

Debbie Radekin, RN
Utilization Management/Provider Operations Supervisor



Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.
2011 Training Calendar
FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL DEBBIE CRAWFORD AT 1-800-582-7277

Training Calendar

October 5

Sensitivity to Aging

9:00 am - 12:15 pm

Area Agency on Aging District 7 Office - 1644 11th Street, Portsmouth

Cost: \$35.00

Trainers: AAA7 Staff CEUs: Approved three (3) hours for social workers (#MSX041102) - RNs may also utilize CEUs. BENHA approval #076-C-11.

October 26

DRIVE

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Area Agency on Aging District 7 Office - 1644 11th Street, Portsmouth

Cost: \$40

Trainers: AAA7 Staff

UPCOMING DENTAL CLINICS

If you know of someone that needs dental work done,
they need to call and have their name put on the schedule.

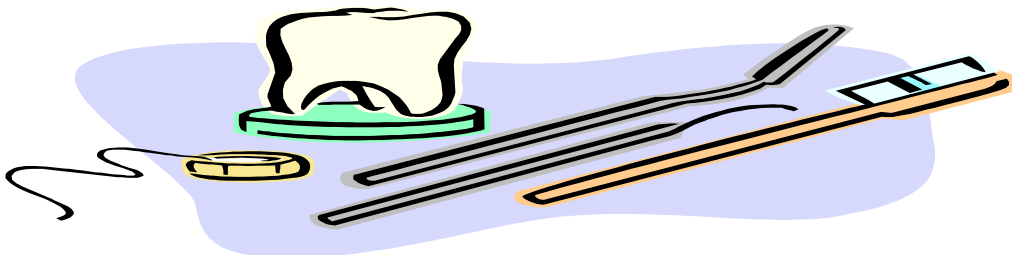
SEPTEMBER 26 Ironton-Lawrence CAO ~ Carol Horner ~ 740-533-1863

OCTOBER 17 Brown Co. SC ~ Sue ~ 937-378-6603

OCTOBER 24 Brown Co. SC ~ Sue ~ 937-378-6603

NOVEMBER 7 Vinton Co. SC ~ Rhoda ~ 740-596-4706

NOVEMBER 21 Vinton Co. SC ~ Rhoda ~ 740-596-4706



AAA7 Quick Notes

News Snippets for Your Information!

SENIOR EXPO

Just a friendly reminder that the 2011 Senior Expo has been CANCELED.
Please pass this along to others who might be interested or need to know.

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING OHIOAN

The Ohio Department of Aging recently announced nomination deadlines
for state-level honors:

Elder Caregiver Award: September 1 - 30, 2011

Joined Hearts in Giving: November 1 - 30, 2011

For more information, log on to www.aging.ohio.gov/news/nominations, or call Melanie Ayotte at the Ohio Department of Aging at (614) 728-0253 or e-mail mayotte@age.state.oh.us.

LOOKING FOR A SPEAKER?

We love to speak at community meetings and functions!
Call us at 1-800-582-7277 to schedule the Area Agency on Aging District 7
for your next meeting.

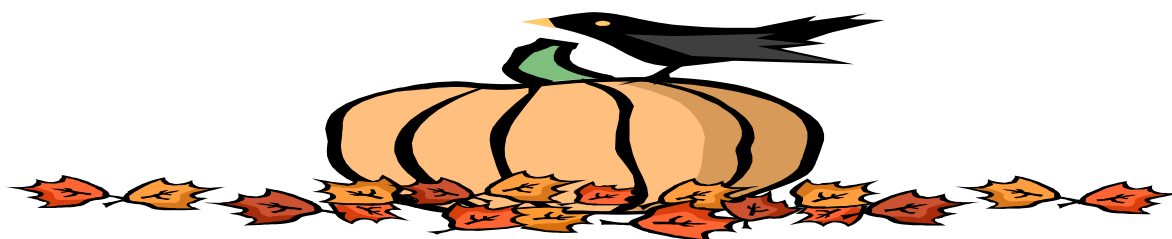
FIND US ON FACEBOOK

The AAA7 is now on Facebook!

Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/AreaAgencyOnAgingDistrict7>

MISSED VISITS PROGRAM

The Missed Visits Program has been added to the new AAA7 website so it is more accessible
for our providers. The link is http://www.aaa7.org/site/429/provider_resources.aspx.



Jackson-Vinton Counties Medication Assistance

The Jackson-Vinton Community Action, Inc. has a prescription medication assistance grant that closes out the **end of September** that can help residents of Jackson or Vinton County, who have **no health insurance** and a **total household income below 200% of poverty**, with the purchase of **non-narcotic prescription medication**, up to a **maximum amount of \$300**. With only a couple weeks left in this grant, they want to make sure they can help as many people as possible and use all the remaining funds **by September 30th**. If you or your staff are aware of anyone this may benefit, please have them call **Kay Hayes at 384-5119** as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to determine eligibility. **They need to have a current prescription or medication bottle with refills, proof of total household income, and the names, dates of birth and SS numbers of everyone living in the household.**

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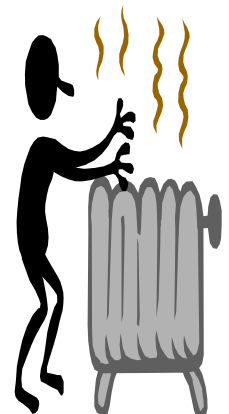
Seniors and Disabled Individuals Can Receive Help with Heating Costs Through HEAP

Seniors and those with disabilities can apply for possible assistance with heating bills thanks to the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).

HEAP is a federally funded program administered by the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Community Service (OCS). It is designed to help eligible low-income Ohioans meet the high costs of home heating. Thanks to a grant received by the Ohio Department of Development, the Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc., is able to make this program available locally to seniors and those with disabilities through a number of partners included in its 10-county District.

According to the Ohio Department of Development, if you are eligible for assistance, the amount of your one-time HEAP benefit will depend on federal funding levels, how many people live with you, total household income, and the primary fuel you use to heat your home. In most cases, the one-time benefit will be a credit applied to your energy bill by your utility company or fuel vendor. Eligibility requirements are included on the Ohio Department of Development's website or by calling one of the local partners listed below:

Adams County – Adams County Senior Citizens Center
Brown County – Brown County Senior Citizens Center
Gallia County – RSVP of the Ohio Valley
Highland County – Highland County Community Action Organization
Jackson County – RSVP of the Ohio Valley
Lawrence County – Ironton-Lawrence County Community Action Organization
Pike County – Community Action Committee of Pike County
Ross County – Ross County Committee for the Elderly
Scioto County – United Scioto Senior Activities
Vinton County – Vinton County Senior Citizens Center



You can obtain a HEAP application online at the Ohio Department of Development's website at <http://development.ohio.gov/Community/ocs/heap.htm>, or you can contact any of the partners listed previously for more information. A limited supply of applications are also located at the AAA7's office sites in Rio Grande, Portsmouth, Waverly and West Union.

Don't Miss Open Enrollment!

Medicare's annual open enrollment is *earlier* this year.

To choose a different Medicare health plan or prescription drug plan for 2012:

**Enroll October 15 –
December 7, 2011**

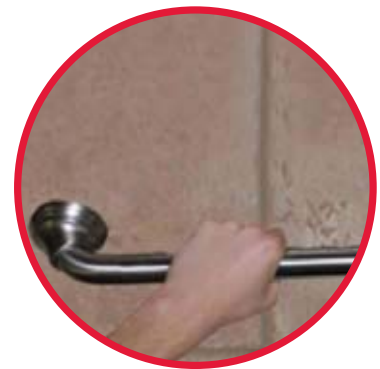
Questions? Call the Area Agency on Aging District 7 at
1-800-582-7277, extension 250



Know Yourself. Know Your Environment. No Falls.

Falls and fall-related injury seriously affect older adults' quality of life and present a substantial burden to the Ohio's families and health-care system. Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths and the most common cause of nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma. Most bone fractures experienced among older adults are caused by falls. The most common fractures are of the spine, hip, forearm, leg, ankle, pelvis, upper arm and hand.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) reports that falls among older Ohioans have reached epidemic proportions, and account for a disproportionate share of fall-related injuries. In 2005, older Ohioans accounted for 20 percent of all fall-related emergency room visits and 81 percent of deaths, despite representing only 13 percent of the overall population. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 30 percent of Americans age 65 or older living in the community, and more than 50 percent of those living in residential care facilities or nursing homes, fall every year. The risk of falling increases with age.



Prevent Falls

You can reduce your risk of falls by following 5 easy steps:

- 1.** Increase your physical activity. Simple exercise, like walking or swimming at least 15 minutes a day can help build muscle strength and improve balance, which can prevent falls. If you are unable to participate in these activities, ask your doctor for other types of activities that could help build your strength and balance.
- 2.** See your eye doctor once each year. Age-related eye diseases, such as cataracts, macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy, can increase the risk of falling. Early detection is key to minimizing the effects of these conditions.

Continued...

You can reduce your risk of falls ...

- 3. Review your medications.** Talk to your doctor about the medicines you are taking and whether they may cause drowsiness or dizziness. Discuss things you can do to ensure you are taking your medicines safely.
- 4. Remove environmental hazards.** Look around the house for anything that could increase the risk of falls, including poor lighting, loose rugs, slippery floors and unsteady furniture. Remove or modify these hazards. Identify areas where additional lighting, grab bars and other safety support are needed.
- 5. Think, plan and slow down.** Many falls are caused by hurrying. Slow down and think through the task you are performing. Be mindful of possible falls risks and act accordingly.

Individuals and families also can contact their area agency on aging or local health department office to learn about available trainings and resources designed to reduce the risk of falls. Call toll-free **1-866-243-5678** to be connected to the area agency on aging serving your community.



**OHIO INJURY PREVENTION
PARTNERSHIP**

Older Adults Falls Prevention Coalition

www.healthyohioprogram.org/vipp/oafpc/oafpc.aspx

www.aaa7.org

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ROUTE

Owner/CEO _____

Administrator _____

DON _____

Staff Development _____

Nurse Manager _____

Scheduler _____

Business manager _____

Other _____

Any agency changes must be reported to the PAA Quality Assurance department. This includes administrative staff, contact person for referrals, supervisory RN, agency location or mailing address, phone or fax numbers, as well as ownership changes. Written notification should be sent to Debbie Radekin, QA Dept., F-32 URG, P. O. Box 500, Rio Grande, Ohio 45674.

Seniors or caregivers who would like information about long term care options should be referred to The Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. at 1-800-582-7277.

The Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. serves Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton Counties.

“Services Provided on a Non-Discriminatory Basis”

www.aaa7.org