



# AGING HORIZONS

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March 2009

## AGING PERSPECTIVES

*Charlie Rehbein, Aging Coordinator*

### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Every day or so, we get calls or e-mails from citizens or service providers wondering what is happening at the Legislature as far as the budget goes.

House Bill 2, Governor Schweitzer's Budget for State Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, is the bill that the legislature uses to fund state government. This bill goes through many changes during a legislative session and this year is no different, especially with the revenue projections being lower for the next two years based on the economic recession our country and state are going through. It has passed the House and is presently in Senate Finance and Claims.

House Bill 645 is the Stimulus bill which has some one-time only federal funds of about

\$500,000 earmarked for congregate and home delivered meals, and state general one-time-only funds of \$1.5 million for aging services.

There are still about three and a half weeks left of the session before adjournment and all of the budget items are subject to changes made by the Legislature from Senate Finance and Claims, to the floor of the Senate and all the way through a conference committee, if one is needed. If you are interested in watching or listening to the Legislative hearings or floor action on these bills you may go to the following website:

[http://leg.mt.gov/css/Audio/audio\\_broadcast.asp](http://leg.mt.gov/css/Audio/audio_broadcast.asp)

So as Yogi Berra, the famous New York Yankee's catcher and philosopher said, "It ain't over 'til it's over" ... and that is how it is this year at the Legislature.

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## AGING HORIZONS

Aging Services Bureau  
SLTCD/DPHHS  
P.O. Box 4210  
Helena, MT 59604-4210  
1-800-332-2272

**Website address:**  
<http://www.aging.mt.gov>

## AGING SERVICES RECEIVES NCOA OUTREACH GRANT

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) announced earlier this month that the Aging Services Bureau of the Senior and Long Term Care Division was one of 10 organizations nationwide that had received a grant to find and enroll into public benefits programs older people and younger adults with disabilities who have limited means.

Awarded through NCOA's [National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment](#), the grants support the development of person-centered community-based systems for outreach and enrollment into public benefits through local one stop Benefits Enrollment Centers, in Montana called Aging and Disability Resource Centers. These Centers are run by local Area Agencies on Aging. The Centers will reach and assist older people and younger adults with disabilities throughout the country, who may qualify for but are not yet enrolled in programs that help pay for prescription drugs, medical care, food or utilities.

Under a cooperative funding agreement between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Aging, the National Center for the Benefits Outreach and Enrollment was established in September 2008 to provide technical assistance to States, Area Agencies on Aging, and service providers to provide outreach and benefits enrollment assistance to older Americans and younger adults with disabilities of limited means.

Montana received the maximum grant of \$100,000 to enroll older people and adults with disabilities into "need-based" benefits programs, which are those for which eligibility is based on financial need. The following need-based programs are being specifically targeted by the grant: Medicare Part D Extra Help (Low-Income Subsidy or

LIS); Medicare Savings Programs (SLMB and QMB programs); Medicaid; the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the federal Food Stamp program; State Pharmacy Assistance Programs (the Big Sky Rx Program); and Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP). Special emphasis will be placed in identifying and signing up people for the Big Sky Rx program. The following chart outlines the eligibility requirements for some of these programs. The grant will last 12 months (March 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010).

Benefits Enrollment Centers have an ultimate goal of creating community or state based, person-centered benefits enrollment systems that are as seamless as possible for consumers and their families and are sustainable beyond the period funded by these grants. They will help people who need one-on-one assistance with filling out benefits application forms. Centers also encourage an individual to be screened and apply for multiple benefits at one time, rather than pursuing individual benefit programs one by one.

In Montana, Aging and Disability Resource Centers are located in three Area Agencies on Aging: Area II Agency on Aging in Roundup (covering Big Horn, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, and Yellowstone Counties), Area VI Agency on Aging in Polson (covering Lake, Lincoln, Mineral and Sanders) and Area X Agency on Aging in Havre (covering Hill County).

Aging Services will be working closely with AARP and the Big Sky RX program to achieve the grant objectives.

**For more information, contact:** Janet Stellmon, State I&A Coordinator at 406 444-7784

Are **Medicare** costs getting you down?

**Help** may be available to help you!

### 2009 Medicare Savings Program Guidelines

<b>Effective April 2009</b>	<b>QMB – Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program</b>	<b>SLMB – Special Low Income Medicare Beneficiary Program</b>	<b>QI – Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program</b>
<b><u>Income Limits</u></b> Single Individual Couple	\$903 \$1215	\$1083 \$1457	\$1219 \$1640
<b><u>Resource Limits</u></b> Single Individual Couple	\$4,000 \$6,000	\$4,000 \$6,000	\$4,000 \$6,000
<b>BENEFITS</b>	Part A premiums Part B premiums Deductibles Coinsurance	Medicare Part B premiums	Medicare Part B premiums

**Call your local Office of Public Assistance or your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-551-3191**

### 2009 Low-Income Subsidy/Extra Help for Medicare D

<b><u>Income Limits</u></b> Single Individual Couple	Under \$16,245 per year Under \$21,855 per year
<b><u>Resource Limits</u></b> Single Individual Couple	Under \$12,510 Under \$25,010
<b>BENEFITS</b>	Could cover all or part of your Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Plan) premium, deductibles and coinsurance.

**Call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-551-3191**

### 2009 Big Sky Rx Program

<b><u>Income Limits</u></b> Single Individual Couple	Under \$21,660 Under \$29,140
<b><u>Resource Limits</u></b> Single Individual Couple	<b>No Resource limits</b>
<b>BENEFITS</b>	Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Plan) premium up to \$33.19 per month.

**Call Big Sky Rx at 1-866-369-1233 or your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-551-3191**

## 2009 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON AGING

In an effort to have more seniors attend the Governor's Conference on Aging, this year we are bringing the conference to seniors across Montana. This May, Older Americans Month, the conference will be in Glendive on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, in Browning on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and in Butte May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

At each location, the first day of the Conference will be sponsored by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GAC). The GAC has arranged for presenters representing national and statewide topics of interest to seniors. We will also recognize local Centenarians and Mini-Grant winners.

The second day of the conference has local presenters speaking on topics chosen by committees coordinated by local Area Agencies on Aging and Senior Centers. For agendas and registration information check out our web site at [www.aging.mt.gov](http://www.aging.mt.gov) or look further in this newsletter.

In keeping with the past traditions of the conference, we will be honoring local individuals who will be age 100 and over (Centenarians) by the end of the year and will again award small "Mini-Grants" for start up funding to local projects. Check out the web site above to apply for Mini-Grants or to have a Centenarian recognized. There is also information on these two programs in this newsletter.

If you have any questions or would like to know about booths and advertising opportunities, please contact Brian LaMoure at 406-444-7782 or [blamoure@mt.gov](mailto:blamoure@mt.gov)

# GLENDIVE

MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> AND 6<sup>TH</sup>  
EPEC  
313 S. MERRILL AVENUE

# BROWNING

May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>  
EAGLE Shield Center

# BUTTE

MAY 12 AND 13<sup>TH</sup>  
MAC CENTER  
550 E MERCURY STREET

**41<sup>st</sup> Governor's Conference on Aging**  
**Aging in Your Community**  
**May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Glendive, MT at the EPEC 313 S. Merrill Ave.**

**Agenda Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>**

8:45 Opening and Welcome - Beverly Barnhart Chair, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

- Flag Presentation
- Welcome by Mayor Jerry Jimison

9:15 National, State and Local Issues affecting Montana's Seniors

- Percy Divine, Administration on Aging Denver
- Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
- MT AARP
- Wally Daeley, MT Silver Haired Legislature
- Anna Whiting Sorrell, Director DPHHS

10:15 BREAK

10:45 Medical Issues Facing Montanans

- MT Veterans Affairs
- Diabetes and Strokes, MT Dept Public Health and Human Services
- Dr Jacobsen, Macular Degeneration
- Debra Wagner, Lifeline

12:00 Lunch - Montana's Centenarians and Mini Grant awards

1:30 Landlord and Tenants Rights, Lou Villemez, Attorney, AAA Association

2:30 BREAK

3:00 Long Term Care Insurance, Sharon Richetti, State Auditor's Office, and Kelly Moorese, State Long Term Care Ombudsman

4:00 Conclude

Evening OWL Meeting. Older Women's League, Gladys Considine

**Agenda Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 Opening and Welcome- Mary Lou Miller, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging and Lori Brengle, Area I Agency on Aging Director

9:15 Oil and Mineral Rights, Transfers of Property- Tammie Fagan, Paralegal, Pro Bono/Modest Means Program, SLTC

10:00 Break

10:15 Continued- Oil and Mineral Rights, Transfers of Property- Tammie Fagan, Paralegal, Pro Bono/Modest Means Program, SLTC

11:00 Break

11:15 Advance Directives- Linda O'Connor, Glendive Medical Center

12:00 Luncheon- Recognition of Conference Supporters- Lori Brengle  
Entertainment by Bob Petermann, Cowboy Poet and Songwriter

- 1:00 Montana Comprehensive Cancer Control Project-  
Shelee Warner, Richland Co Health Dept.
- 1:45 Break
- 2:00 Sleep Apnea- Dr. Arthur K. Fink, Glendive Medical Center
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 Service Provider Panel- Lisa Brittingham, Glendive OPA  
Agnes Price, Holy Rosary Home and Community Based Services  
Christine Kinslow, Well Care Home Health Agency  
Mary Russell, AAA and CCOA Services  
Jeannie Seifert, County Health Department services to the elderly  
Bob Zadow, Adult Protective Services, Region I Administrator
- 4:00 Conclude

**41st Governor's Conference on Aging**  
**Aging In Your Community**  
 May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Glendive MT at the EPEC 313 S. Merrill Ave.  
 For more information and agenda [www.aging.mt.gov](http://www.aging.mt.gov)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Governor's Conference  
 on Aging**  
 PO Box 4210  
 Helena MT 59604

For more  
 information  
 1-800-332-2272  
 ask for Brian LaMoure

**Full Conference Registration Fee**

\$40 Prior to April 20<sup>th</sup>.  
 \$50 After April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Single Days - Registration Fees**

May 5<sup>th</sup> \$25 includes lunch  
 May 6<sup>th</sup> \$25 includes lunch

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Lunches \$15 note the day Tues or Wed

**41st Governor's Conference on Aging**  
**Aging in Your Community**  
**May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Browning, MT at the Eagle Shield Center**

**Agenda Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 Opening and Welcome

- Beverly Barnhart, Chair, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
- Tribal Prayer & Flag Presentation
- Welcome by Tribal Chair, Willy Sharp

9:15 State and Local Issues Affecting Montana's Seniors

- Percy Divine, Administration on Aging, Denver
- Anna Whiting Sorrell, Director DPHHS

10:15 BREAK

10:30 Issues Facing Native Americans

- MT Veterans Affairs
- Diabetes and Strokes, MT Dept Public Health and Human Services
- MT Alzheimer's Assn, Invited
- TBA

12:00 Lunch - Montana's Centenarians and Mini Grant awards

1:30 Adult Protective Services - Danelle Burns and James Francetich MT APS

2:30 BREAK

2:45 National Senior Issues

- Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Janet Witt
- MT AARP

4:00 Conclude

Evening OWL Meeting - Older Women's League - Gladys Considine

**Agenda Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 Opening and Welcome - Beverly Barnhart

- Welcome, prayer and singing - Tribal Chief Earl Old Person
- History of the Blackfeet - Tribal Chief Earl Old Person

10:00 Break

10:15 Panel - Senior & Long Term Care in Blackfeet Country

Mary Allen LaFromboise, CHR Director; Carrie Jackson, Elder Family Caregiver Coordinator; Connie Bremner, Governor's Advisory Council Member; IHS Nutritionist Destiny Anderson; and Wilber Fish, Tribal Herbalist

12:00 Luncheon - Star School Head Start drummers, singers, dancers

1:00 Cultural presentation - Nel Eby

3:00 Break

3:15 Panel - Elder Abuse among Montana's 7 Tribes Michelle Fox and Terry Flamand

Conclude - Award Pendleton Blanket to a lucky attendee.

**41st Governors Conference on Aging**  
**Aging In Your Community**  
May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Browning MT at the Eagle Shield Center, 5525 Haul Rd  
For more information and agenda [www.aging.mt.gov](http://www.aging.mt.gov)

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E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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May 7<sup>th</sup> \$10 includes lunch

May 8<sup>th</sup> \$10 includes lunch

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**41<sup>st</sup> Governor's Conference on Aging  
Aging in Your Community**

**May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Butte, MT at the MAC Center, 550 E. Mercury St.**

**Day 1 - Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:30 Opening and Welcome - Beverly Barnhart chair, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging  
Flag Presentation  
Welcome by Mayor
- 9:00 National, State and Local Issues effecting Montana's Seniors
- Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
  - MT AARP
  - Sandi Dickerson, MT Silver Haired Legislature
  - Anna Whiting Sorrell, Director DPHHS
- 10:15 BREAK
- 10:45 Medical Issues Facing Montanan's
- MT Veterans Affairs
  - Diabetes and Strokes, MT Dept Public Health and Human Services
  - MT Alzheimer's Assn, Invited
  - TBA
- 12:00 Lunch - Montana's Centenarians and Mini Grant awards, Butte Cloggers
- 1:30 Landlord and Tenants Rights, John McCrea DPHHS
- 2:30 BREAK
- 3:00 Long Term Care Insurance, Sharon Richetti, State Auditor's Office, Kelly Moore,  
State Long Term Care Ombudsman
- 4:00 Conclude
- Evening OWL Meeting. Older Women's League, Gladys Considine

**Day 2 - Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup>**

- |       |                                    |                   |
|-------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 8:30  | Let's Get Going! Yoga / Stretching | Erin Garlinghouse |
| 8:45  | Motivational Speaker - topic TBD   | Jane Baker        |
| 9:30  | Heart Health                       | Dr. Sharon Hecker |
| 10:15 | Coffee Break                       |                   |
| 10:30 | Caregiver Support Panel            | Panel TBD         |
| 11:15 | Topic TBD                          | Dr. Shawna Yates  |

Lunch Noon to 1:15 at the MAC

- 1:15 Practical Tips for A Struggling Economy Panel TBD
- Services through Area V, Belmont Senior Center
  - MSU Extension Service, Bankers, Ship Counselors, etc.
- 2:15 Exercise at any age
- Fine Line Dancers
  - YMCA
- 3:00 Mini Health Fair (on your own) & visit our vendors!
- Legal questions & Answers all TBD
  - Community Health - including dental grant etc.
  - "Brown Bag" Q & A - Pharmacies
  - Ship Counselors
  - Etc.

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**41st Governor's Conference on Aging**  
**Aging In Your Community**  
May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Butte MT at the MAC Center 550 E Mercury St.  
For more information and agenda [www.aging.mt.gov](http://www.aging.mt.gov)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Representing \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Governor's Conference  
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PO Box 4210  
Helena MT 59604**

For more  
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**Single Days - Registration Fees**  
May 12<sup>th</sup> \$15 includes lunch  
May 13<sup>th</sup> \$15 includes lunch

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## Montana's 2009 Centenarians Search

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging would like to recognize all Montanans who are, or will be 100 years of age or older by December 31, 2009, at the 41<sup>st</sup> Governor's Conference's being held May 5<sup>th</sup> in Glendive, May 7<sup>th</sup> in Browning and May 12<sup>th</sup> in Butte.

The theme of the conference is: **Aging in Your Community**. Montana's 2000 census showed that we had 162 centenarians and it is estimated by 2025, we will have over 3,000. By recognizing our eldest of the elders and honoring them, we hope to raise the public's awareness of the baby boom generation which is now turning 60 years old.

We will recognize the Centenarians at a luncheon during their local Governor's Conference on Aging. We are particularly hoping that our oldest Montanan would be able to attend. All Centenarians who reply will receive a Centenarian's recognition proclamation from the Governor and a free lunch.

If you are a Centenarian or are aware of one and would like them to be recognized, please supply us the following information by April 20, 2009. We would also like to get a good, non-Polaroid photo and replies to the following questions.

1. Their name and address.
2. Where and when were they born? If not born in Montana, what is their story on how they got to Montana?
3. What is the secret to their longevity?
4. What has been the most amazing event in their life that they would like to share?
5. What would their favorite quote be?
6. Anything else they would like us to know?
7. Will they be attending the luncheon? Please RSVP if possible.

Please send your information to:  
Brian LaMoure  
DPHHS - SLTC  
PO Box 4210  
Helena MT 59604-4210

Or to [Blamoure@mt.gov](mailto:Blamoure@mt.gov) and be sure to check out the Conference's web site at [www.aging.mt.gov](http://www.aging.mt.gov) for more information.

For more information, contact: Charlie Rehbein at 406-444-7788

**2009 Governor's Conference on Aging**  
**MINI-GRANT APPLICATION FOR SENIOR PROJECTS.**  
**Applications must be received by April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**

The purpose of the Mini-Grant Program is to help facilitate up front funding of innovative ideas that will serve senior interests in local communities. Funding for these grants is provided by the Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Wal-Mart, ConocoPhillips, CHS Incorporated and other private organizations.

The one time only mini-grants range from \$500 to \$1,000. Applications can be received from any governmental agency or 501(C)3 non-profit organization. The community receiving the grant must have a population fewer than 10,000 and be more than 25 miles from a city population of 10,000+. Photo's of the completed project and accounting for funds received will be required as well as a report to the Governors Advisory Council on Aging by year end.

Eligible activities include a full range of services needed by Montana's seniors such as training and education, development of support services, creating or enhancing on-going services to meet a specific or unmet need of seniors in the community. They should exhibit collaboration with the aging network, and public/private sector partnerships are encouraged.

*Note: Responses need to identify which following question they are answering.*

1. Describe the problem/unmet need in the community and its affect on seniors.
2. Describe how you propose solving this need/problem.
3. Explain how you will collaborate with the aging network, or establish a public/private partnership.
4. Provide a detailed budget for the proposed project.

Priority ranking of the proposals will be based on the following:

1. Is this a serious unmet need/problem?
2. Is this a creative solution to the need/problem?
3. Is this a wise expenditure of funds?
4. What will happen to the project after the funding is ended?
5. Is it a collaborative proposal?
6. Can the project be copied by other communities?

## 2009 MINI GRANT APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Who is responsible for the project \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the sponsoring organization \_\_\_\_\_

I verify that the funds from this mini-grant will be used as detailed above, if received, and funds granted will be expended by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send applications by **APRIL 10TH, 2009** to:

Brian LaMoure  
DPHHS-SLTC  
PO Box 4210  
Helena MT 59604-4210

Questions? Contact Brian at:

1-800-332-2272 or direct 406-444-7782,  
fax 406-444-7743  
blamoure@mt.gov

Enclose additional sheets with answers to the questions above describing your project.

# TRIBAL FEDERAL BENEFITS WORKSHOPS

Tribal federal benefits workshops are scheduled for the Rocky Boy Reservation and the Crow Reservation in the Spring. Both are Train the Trainer Seminars that will provide participants with information on a wide range of state and local human service programs. Experts will provide specific information on the following statewide programs:

- Social Security Retirement and Survivor benefits
- Social Security Disability Insurance
- Supplemental Security Income
- Homeless Outreach Project/
- Social Securities Appeals
- Social Security Employment Support Services

- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Tribal and Montana Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Indian Health Service
- Veterans' Administration Benefits

Information on local tribal services will also be provided by local experts.

These workshops are open to the public and are free.

Booths and tables with brochures and other program information will be available at both sites from presenters and other agencies and organizations. Door prizes!

<b>ROCKY BOY RESERVATION</b>	<b>CROW RESERVATION</b>
<b>FEDERAL BENEFITS WORKSHOP III HELPING HANDS MAKE A DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>WELCOME TO CROW COUNTRY</b>
<p><b>Location:</b> Kennewash Hall Stone Child College, Box Elder</p> <p><b>Dates:</b> April 21, 2009 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM April 22, 2009 8:45 AM - 3:30 PM April 23, 2009 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM</p> <p><b>April 23</b> - Medicare 101 and help signing up with Medicaid and Medicare programs</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Multi Purpose Center Crow Agency</p> <p><b>Dates:</b> May 19, 2009 10:00 AM - 4:30 PM May 20, 2009 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM May 21, 2009 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM</p> <p><b>May 21</b> - Medicare 101 and help signing up with Medicaid and Medicare programs</p>
<p><b>For more information, contact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Thelma Stanley, Faith Sutherland, or Loni Whitford, Chippewa Cree Health Center - 395-4486</li> <li>▪ Elaine Topsy, TANF Program - 395-5814</li> <li>▪ Roger Ala, Disability Determination Div, Helena - 800-545-3054</li> </ul>	<p><b>For more information, contact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jackie Three Irons, IHS, Crow Agency - 638-3418</li> <li>▪ Diane Russell, Crow Tribal Elders Program 638-4449</li> <li>▪ Roger Ala, Disability Determination Div, Helena - 800-545-3054</li> </ul>

## ONE TIME STIMULUS PAYMENTS FOR SENIORS

With passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the stimulus bill) in February, there will be a **one-time payment of \$250** to Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries. The legislation also provides for a one-time payment to Veterans Affairs (VA) and Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) beneficiaries. The VA and RRB will be responsible for paying individuals under their respective programs.

Over 60 million beneficiaries will receive a one-time payment. A one-time \$250 payment will be issued to an individual eligible under the above mentioned programs in any month during the three month period prior to the enactment of the stimulus. **An individual eligible under more than one program will receive only one payment.**

The payments are expected to be delivered by late May 2009. **No action is required on the part of beneficiaries; they will**

**automatically receive the payment.** The payment will arrive separately from the usual monthly payment. Beneficiaries should contact Social Security if they do not receive their payment by June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

The payment will be delivered in the same way the current Social Security or SSI benefit is currently delivered. If the payment is usually delivered by check, the one-time payment will be delivered by check. If the beneficiary usually receives a monthly direct deposit or Direct Express® debit card payment, that is how they will receive the one-time payment.

Payments are disregarded as a resource for purposes of eligibility under any federal program or any state or local program financed in whole or in part with federal funds. This disregard is effective for the month of receipt and the following nine months. The payments are not considered taxable income.

**For more information on the payments, visit:** <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/payment/>

*From National Association of State Units on Aging Bulletin*

## 2009 SENIOR FARMERS MARKET PROGRAM

This year, the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) will be in 9 locations: Billings, Bozeman, Darby, Hamilton, Helena, Livingston, Manhattan, Miles City, Missoula and Stevensville.

To qualify, participants must be 60 years of age or older and within 185% of federal poverty guidelines. The monthly income for a single person is approximately \$1670 and for a couple it is approximately \$2246.

Participants at all the locations except Billings will receive \$50 in coupons that can be redeemed at their local market for fresh, unprocessed fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey that is grown in Montana. In Billings, participants receive fresh produce that is purchased in bulk and distributed through the Billings Food Bank.

Sign up locations for the SFMNP are listed on the back of the newsletter.

**For more information, contact:** Doug Blakley at 1-800-332-2272

## CONTACTS FOR SENIOR FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAMS

### **BILLINGS**

Billings Food Bank  
259-2856

### **LIVINGSTON**

Western Sustainability Exchange  
222-0730

### **MANHATTAN**

Manhattan Farmers Market  
284-6574

### **RAVALLI COUNTY MARKETS**

Ravalli County Council on Aging  
363-5690

### **BOZEMAN**

Bozeman Senior Center  
586-2421

### **MILES CITY**

Custer County Food Bank  
234-3663

### **MISSOULA**

Missoula Aging Services  
728-7682