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NEWS RELEASE

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Medicare Part D Open Enrollment

BOISE ID – Now is the time for seniors to start thinking about prescription drug coverage and to evaluate whether or not the Medicare Part D plan they have chosen is still the best one for them. The Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) office of Idaho Department of Insurance would like all Medicare beneficiares to be aware of the upcoming enrollment period for Medicare Part D drug coverage, November 15, 2007, through December 31, 2007.

During the open enrollment period, Medicare beneficiaries who do not have a Part D plan may enroll in one, and those with current coverage may change plans. Beneficiaries who take no action will remain in their current plans. Seniors should review their prescription needs if they have changed during the year. Anyone who would like to compare their current plan with the 2008 plan choices is encouraged to contact their local SHIBA office at (800) 334-4278.

SHIBA is currently looking for individuals interested in training as volunteers to help Medicare recipients understand health insurance choices and to help them resolve health insurance problems. "If you have a sensitive and caring attitude, are able to maintain confidentiality, can communicate well with others, and want to make a real difference, we can use your help," said Terri Wade, SHIBA Volunteer Services Coordinator. Please call (800) 247-4422 to learn how to become a volunteer.

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