

Medicaid Matters

Why Hire a Professional?

Many nursing homes and social workers will assist with the filing of a Medicaid application; however, gathering records and documenting 3-5 years of transactions for the Medicaid application can be a very time consuming and frustrating process; and certain transfers and assets could cause delays in receiving Medicaid benefits.

What does applying for Medicaid involve?

Applying for Medicaid is like being audited. In order to make the application process go smoothly, *Medicaid Matters* assists with:

Reviewing financial records for missing statements, checks, and other required information;

Documenting transactions to show transfers from one account to another;

Requesting information from appropriate financial institutions, life insurance companies, employers, etc.;

Providing clients with information as to which assets are countable or non-countable, in order to better protect excess countable assets*;

Providing clients with the information as to how certain transfers may affect eligibility*;

Negotiating with nursing homes regarding payments while the Medicaid application is being processed; and

On-going status checks with the Medicaid case worker, representative or family member, and nursing home.

*Clients are encouraged to consult with an attorney if they wish to have legal advice related to the Medicaid rules.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF:

You or your spouse has been recently (or not so recently) diagnosed with dementia;

or

You are the primary caregiver for your mother, father, spouse, or child;

or

You want to be better informed about Medicaid matters.



Wendy Thornton, is a consultant with over 10 years of experience helping seniors and their families; and has assisted clients in maximizing asset protection and qualifying for Medicaid and other benefits.

Medicaid Matters

(847) 757-8259

e-mail: medicaid.matters@att.net

www.medicaidmatters.weebly.com

*Evening and Weekend appts.
available*

Wendy Thornton, Consultant

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Nursing homes are expensive!

If you think that you will “lose the house” paying for care in a nursing home;

or

You think you are required to spend all of your money before you can qualify for Medicaid benefits;

FIND OUT ABOUT

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SERVICES

Thank you for picking up this brochure!

My goal is to educate people about the State of Illinois Medicaid program. There is too much misinformation about the Medicaid rules; I want people to be better informed.

When I hear of people:

- getting mortgages on their homes to pay for medical bills and to pay for care in the home; or
- saying that the only way they can afford the cost of a nursing home is if they get a divorce; or
- giving money to their children so that they can qualify for Medicaid;

I think:

What you don't know can really hurt you.

I don't want people to get hurt...

Whether you are paying for care now, or think you may need care later, it pays to know why *Medicaid Matters*.

1st ½ hr. telephone call - no charge

MEDICAID SCREENING

The purpose of the Medicaid Screening is to determine when a client may be eligible or near-eligible for benefits.

If a client is determined to be eligible or near-eligible for Medicaid benefits, a person-to-person(s) assessment will be recommended.

PERSON-TO-PERSON(S)

ASSESSMENT (1½-2 hrs.)

The purpose of the Person-to-Person(s) Assessment is to give an overview of Medicaid eligibility and the Application Process to representatives and/or family members of those interested in applying for Medicaid benefits now or sometime in the future.

QUESTIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY

People are often intimidated by the thought of meeting with an attorney. The purpose of the "Questions to ask the Attorney" is to provide a list of questions to coordinate legal services with the services offered by *Medicaid Matters*.

MEDICAID MENTORING

2hr. appointments - as needed

The purpose of Medicaid Mentoring is to coach the representative or family member who is willing to do the time consuming process of gathering documents and guide them through the Medicaid application process.

MEDICAID DOCUMENT

MANAGEMENT (15-45 Hrs.)

The purpose of the Medicaid Document Management is to free the representative or family member from the tedious and time consuming process of applying for Medicaid.

INFORMATION, REFERRAL, AND LIAISON SERVICES

In the course of assisting families with Medicaid issues, *Medicaid Matters* frequently finds opportunities where family members can benefit from additional information related to legal documents, assistance with Medicare, prescription costs, and future needs for in-home care or Adult Day Service.

It is the policy of *Medicaid Matters* to keep fees down by referring clients to free or low cost assistance such as the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) for Medicare issues, and other agencies for assistance with other non-Medicaid assistance programs.

Medicaid Matters also acts as a liaison to help clients access such services as the Community Care Program through the Illinois Department on Aging, which provides in-home care and Adult Day Services.