

Institute for Disability Studies

ShareCare Notes on Rx Drug Assistance and StoryCorps

January 19, 2006

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#### 1. Upcoming Events

Starting in January, on every third Thursday we will have a potluck dinner at 6 p.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church for ShareCare. We encourage everyone to attend, bring your favorite dish, and bring a friend. Our first one is today, January 19, 2006. The next one will be Thursday, February 16, 2006.

Also, we are partnering with Forrest General Hospital's support group "Caring for the Caregiver." This group meets the second Thursday of every month at Forrest General Hospital's Elm Room at 6 p.m. The next one will be February 9, 2006. If there is interest, we would like to start a morning group on a convenient day the last week of each month. Please let us know if you are interested.

If you would like additional information about either of these events please call Christy Harrison at 601.266.5163 or e-mail [Christy.Harrison@usm.edu](mailto:Christy.Harrison@usm.edu).

#### 2. Prescription Drug Assistance

For persons who do not have Medicaid, Medicare, or other prescription drug coverage, there is a service available through the Partnership for Prescription Assistance that may help you get prescriptions you need at little or no cost. The Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) brings together America's pharmaceutical companies, doctors, other health care providers, patient advocacy organizations and community groups to help qualifying patients who lack prescription coverage get the medicines they need through the public or private program that's right for them. Many can get their prescriptions for free or nearly free. PPA's mission is to increase awareness of patient assistance programs and boost enrollment of those who are eligible. Through this site, the Partnership for Prescription Assistance offers a single point of access to more than 475 public and private patient assistance programs, including more than 150 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies. To access the Partnership for Prescription Assistance by phone, you can call toll-free, 1-888-4PPA-NOW(1-888-477-2669) or visit the Web site for Mississippi at [www.pparxms.org](http://www.pparxms.org)

<<http://www.pparxms.org/>> The amount of time the process takes varies on communication with the doctor, application process, and drug availability.

Eligibility is determined based on income and insurance coverage. This program is for people with low incomes and no insurance. You may be eligible if your insurance covers part of your prescriptions. The best way to sign up is through the Web site. The Web site prompts you through a few questions, and then fills in an application that can be printed out. Also, the Web site lists the drugs that are covered. The toll-free number was set up to expedite the process.

Here are some sample questions:

\*Age

\*State of residence and ZIP code

\*Estimated gross annual household income

\*Number of people living in household

\*Brand name of prescription medicines they are currently taking or have been prescribed

\*Type of health insurance and/or prescription coverage (if applicable)

### 3. Update on "Preserving Your Memories"

In December, we provided seminars on "Preserving Your Memories." In keeping with that same theme, there is a group called Story Corp who is encouraging Americans to tell and preserve their personal stories. StoryCorps is a national project to instruct and inspire Americans to record one another's stories in sound. They want to help you interview your grandmother, your uncle, the lady who's worked at the luncheonette down the block for as long as you can remember-anyone whose story you want to hear and preserve. If you are interested, the website offers information on how to record an interview, gives you sample questionnaires, and offers a do it yourself kit. Here is a link to the website: [www.storycorps.net/participate/](http://www.storycorps.net/participate/)

Project ShareCare, funded by the Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Area Agency on Aging, provides counseling and networking for family caregivers of adults with disabilities and seniors.

ShareCare is sponsored by the Institute for Disability Studies (IDS), Mississippi's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). IDS provides university training, community service activities, research, and information that promote the independence, productivity, and community inclusion of individuals with disabilities and their families. For more information about IDS, visit the Institute's Web site at [www.usm.edu/ids](http://www.usm.edu/ids) or call 1-888-671-0051

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