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Hello and thank you for contacting Volunteers in Health Care (VIH). VIH provides technical assistance to organizations that are interested in starting, expanding or sustaining a program that provides health care to the uninsured and underserved in their communities.

Unfortunately, VIH does not work with individual patients. Since VIH is involved in working with various agencies to increase access to pharmaceuticals, we often get calls from individuals looking for information. In response to these calls we have developed the enclosed packet of information.

Please note that VIH does not endorse any particular program or service and that the information is by no means all-inclusive but can be used as a starting point. We encourage you to share the enclosed with your doctor and pharmacist as they may wish to contact us for more information. Best wishes.

Sincerely,
Volunteers in Health Care

A National Program Supported

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Assistance and Direction

Provided by Brown University

Center for Primary Care

& Prevention and Memorial

Hospital of Rhode Island.

Are You Looking for Affordable Medications?

Where to Start...

<p><i>If you cannot afford to buy your prescription medications...</i></p>	<p>Most drug manufacturers offer a limited supply of free prescription medication to eligible patients. These Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs) have different application forms and eligibility requirements. The pharmaceutical companies supply these applications for free. For more information about PAPs, ask: your doctor, your pharmacist or look in the PhRMA directory (to obtain the directory call 800-762-4636 or visit www.phrma.org).</p> <p>For more complete information you can search online at:</p> <p>www.rxassist.org Searchable database allows you to search for PAPs by company, brand name, generic name and drug class. The information includes eligibility and application instructions. Internet access necessary.</p> <p>www.medicare.gov/Prescription/Home.asp Based on the information you enter, the site searches for programs in your state or programs for certain diagnosis or medication. Internet access necessary.</p>				
<p><i>If you would like assistance filling out PAPs....</i></p>	<p>Applications for Patient Assistance Programs are free if you call the pharmaceutical company directly. There are programs that will help you obtain and complete the necessary paperwork for a fee. If your PAP application is denied, each program has a different refund policy. Ask about refund policies and services provided before sending any money. Some programs are:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>The Medicine Program</i> www.themedicineprogram.com/ (573) 996-7300</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>The Patient Assistance Network</i> www.patientassistancenetwork.org Toll-free: 202-595-1038</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>We Care Medical Mall</i> www.wecaremedicalmall.org Toll-free: 800-380-MEDS (6337)</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><i>The Medicine Program</i> www.themedicineprogram.com/ (573) 996-7300</p>	<p><i>The Patient Assistance Network</i> www.patientassistancenetwork.org Toll-free: 202-595-1038</p>	<p><i>We Care Medical Mall</i> www.wecaremedicalmall.org Toll-free: 800-380-MEDS (6337)</p>	
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<p><i>We Care Medical Mall</i> www.wecaremedicalmall.org Toll-free: 800-380-MEDS (6337)</p>					
<p><i>If you are on Medicare (65 or older or disabled)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some drug manufacturers offer drug discount cards for the elderly and disabled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → For GlaxoSmithKline's The Orange Card call 888-Orange6 (672-6436) → For Eli Lilly's LillyAnswers Card call 877-RX-Lilly (795-4559) → For Novartis' The CareCard call 866-974-CARE (2273) → For Pfizer's The Share Card call 800-717-6005 → For the Together Rx Card (<i>This one card can be used for many medications manufactured by: Abbott Laboratories, AstraZeneca, Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, GlaxoSmithKline, Janssen, Ortho-McNeil, and Novartis.</i>) call 800-865-7211 				

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call your local Area Agency on Aging for information about community based medication assistance programs. To find the nearest office call 800-677-1116 or visit www.eldercare.gov.
<p><i>If you or a member of your family is a veteran or member of the military....</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the Veteran's Administration at 877-222-VETS(8387)visit http://www.va.gov/ • For active and retired military personnel and their families, visit http://www.tricare.osd.mil/ for information regarding The National Mail Order Pharmacy Program and to find the phone number for your regional office.
<p><i>If you can afford to pay a portion of your medications....</i></p>	<p>Nonprofit Warehouse's Prescription Drug Discount Program In conjunction with Kmart Pharmacies, the Nonprofit Warehouse is offering a drug discount card program to any individual regardless of age or income. The free card allows the holder to receive discounts on prescriptions at Kmart Pharmacies or the AmeriKind Mail Order Program (for those without access to a local Kmart Pharmacy). For more information contact the Nonprofit Warehouse at www.nonprofitwarehouse.com or call 770-541-7777.</p> <p>Group discount drug plans <i>(There are numerous programs and just two examples are below. Please note most discount plans charge membership fees):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YOURxPlan (run by Merck-Medco Discount Drugs) for more information visit www.yourplan.com or call 877-733-6765. • AARP has a group drug plan to find out more call 800-456-2277 or visit www.aarppharmacy.com <p>Canadian on-line pharmacies (examples below): Some of the deepest discounts can be found through purchase of drugs from Canada. Canada RX (www.canadarx.com) and Le Pharmacy (www.lepharmacy.com) allow you to purchase medications from Canada. Using Canadian (or other international) pharmacies is considered "personal importation" and is prohibited by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA). However, FDA inspectors have discretion in enforcement in this area.</p>
<p><i>Additional Information</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community health centers, public hospitals, public health departments and/or private not for profit hospitals in your town may be able to help you. For the nearest community health center contact: 888-ASK-HRSA (275-4772) • Check with your doctor or pharmacist. Physicians and pharmacists may know about where to get free or discounted medication. • If you have a specific disease, there may be programs for you. Look for national organizations advocating for people with your condition. • Local social service agencies or religious groups may have emergency funds for medication purchases. You may want to contact the United Way, Salvation Army, or Goodwill.

Are You Looking for Affordable Medications?

Where to Start...

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may qualify for Medicaid or other similar programs that offer prescription coverage. Contact your state or county social services/welfare department.• Contact your senator or congressperson's office if you cannot locate medication assistance on your own.• Check the attached table for information on programs in your state.
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Drug Assistance Programs by State*

State	Population Served: E=Elderly** D=Disabled M=Medicare	Name of Program	Contact Information
Alabama	E	SenioRx	800-AGE-LINE (800-243-5463)
Alaska	---	No Program	---
Arizona	M	Prescription Medication Coverage Pilot Program (2 year pilot)	Not yet operational
Arkansas	E	Prescription Drug Access Improvement (Medicaid waiver for Rx drug coverage)	Not yet operational: Contact Dept. of Human Services
California	M	Drug Discount Program for Medicare Beneficiaries	Show your Medicare card at participating pharmacies to get drugs at Medi-Cal prices
Colorado	---	No Program	---
Connecticut	Anyone	Citizens Health (program being piloted in MA, CT & RI)	800-JOE-K-4RX (800-563-5479)
Connecticut	E or D	Connecticut Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract to the Elderly and the Disabled Program (ConnPACE)	CT Dept of Social Services 860-832-9265
Delaware	E or D	Delaware Prescription Assistance Program (DPAP)	Division of Social Services 800-996-9969 x 17; 302-577-4900
Delaware	E	Nemours Health Clinic Pharmaceutical Assistance Program	800-292-9538; 302-651-4405
District of Columbia	All low income	DC Healthcare Alliance	202-842-2810
Florida	M	Prescription Discount Program	Show your Medicare card at participating pharmacies to get drugs at Medicaid prices
Florida	M	Sliver Saver Program	888-419-3456
Georgia	All low-income	Georgia Partnership for Caring Foundation	800-982-GPCF (4723)
Hawaii	Anyone	Hawaii Rx Discount Program	Not yet operational: possible implementation 7/1/04
Idaho	---	No Program	---

State	Population Served: E=Elderly** D=Disabled M=Medicare	Name of Program	Contact Information
Illinois	E or D	Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (PAP)	Dept. of Revenue 217-524-0084 x 32347; 800-624-2459; or Dept of Aging Senior HelpLine 1-800-252-8966
Indiana	E	Hoosier Rx	317-234-1381; 866-267-4679
Indiana	M	Senior Health Insurance Info Program	800-452-4800
Iowa	M eligible	Iowa Priority Prescription Savings Program (formerly Iowa Prescription Drug Purchasing Co-op)	866-282-5817
Kansas	E	Senior Pharmacy Assistance Program	Contact Dept. of Aging 785-368-7327
Kentucky	All low income	Health Kentucky	800-633-8100
Louisiana	---	No Program	---
Maine	All low-income	Healthy Maine Prescriptions	888-600-2466
Maryland	All low income	Maryland Medbank Program	410-821-9262, 877-435-7755
Maryland	D, Any age, low income	Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program	Sec of Health & Mental Hygiene 410-767-5394; 800-492-1974
Maryland	M	Senior Short-term Prescription Drug Plan (Care First Plan)	BC/BS 800-972-4612
Massachusetts	Anyone	Citizens Health (program being piloted in MA, CT & RI)	800-JOE-K-4RX (800-563-5479)
Massachusetts	E, D	The Prescription Advantage Program	Exec. Office of Elderly Affairs 800-243-4636; 617-727-7750
Michigan	E	Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage	866-747-5844
Minnesota	E, D	Minnesota Prescription Drug Program	800-333-2433; www.dhs.state.mn.us/hlthcare/asstprog/prescription_drugs.htm
Mississippi	---	No Program	---
Missouri	E	MO Senior Rx Program (Next enrollment 1/1/03-2/28/03)	866-556-9316 or www.missouriseniorx.com

State	Population Served: E=Elderly** D=Disabled M=Medicare	Name of Program	Contact Information
Montana	---	No Program	---
Nebraska	---	No Program	---
Nevada	E	Senior Rx	PRAM Insurance 800-262-7726
New Hampshire	E	Senior Prescription Program	888-580-8902
New Jersey	E, D	Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD)	Dept. of Health & Senior Svcs 609-588-7048; 800-792-9745 PO Box 724 Trenton, NJ 08625-0715
New Jersey	E	Senior Gold Program	Dept. of Health & Senior Svcs 609-588-7048; 800-792-9745 PO Box 724 Trenton, NJ 08625-0715
New Mexico	E	Senior Prescription Drug Program	Not yet operational: NM Retiree Health Care Authority
New York	E	EPIC Fee Plan & EPIC Deductible Plan	518-452-6828; 800-332-3742
North Carolina	E	North Carolina Senior Care Program	866-226-1388
North Dakota	---	No Program	---
Ohio	E,D	Golden Buckeye Card Program	Not yet operational: Dept. of Aging Possible implementation in early 2003
Oklahoma	---	No Program	---
Oregon	E	Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program	Not yet in operation: Contact Dept. of Human Services 503-945-6530 Estimated to start 2/1/03
Pennsylvania	E	Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly (PACE) & PACE Needs Enhancement Tier (PACENET)	PA Dept of Aging 717-652-9028; 800-225-7223
Rhode Island	Anyone	Citizens Health (program being piloted in MA, CT & RI)	800-JOE-K-4RX (800-563-5479)
Rhode Island	E	Rhode Island Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Elderly (RIPAE)	Dept of Elderly Affairs 401-462-3000
South Carolina	E	Silver Rx Card	SilverRx Card Hotline 877-239-5277

State	Population Served: E=Elderly** D=Disabled M=Medicare	Name of Program	Contact Information
South Dakota	---	No Program	---
Tennessee	---	No Program	---
Texas	M	State Prescription Drug Program	Not yet operational, postponed
Utah	---	No Program	---
Vermont	E or D	Vermont Health Access Program (VHAP) & VScript Expanded (state-only VScript)	800-2508427 or instate 800-529-4060
Vermont	All low income	Vermont Medication Bridge Program	866-887-4276
Virginia	---	No Program	---
Washington	---	No Program	---
West Virginia	E	Golden Mountaineer Discount Card Program (replaces SPAN II)	877-987-3646
Wisconsin	E	Senior Care	800-657-2038
Wyoming	All low-income	Prescription Drug Assistance Program	800-442-2766 or 307-777-7531

* Information compiled from various sources including:

National Conference of State Legislatures, *State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (Updated 10/28/02)*, www.ncsl.org/programs/health/drugaid.htm

National Governors Association, *State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs (Updated 10/28/02)*, www.nga.org

Medicare, *Prescription Drug Assistance Programs (Updated, 11/22/02)*, www.medicare.gov/Prescription/Home.asp
 ** States define "elderly" differently, this can mean anything from 55 and older.