2011 KSRE STATE SHICK REPORT - FAST FACTS
(for work completed in Fall 2010)
SENIOR HEALTH INSURANCE COUNSELING FOR KANSAS (SHICK)

Thirteen KSRE agents have completed and maintain certified SHICK Counselor status through a rigorous Kansas Department on Aging annual training and certification process.

Two FCS agents serve as SHICK Coordinators for their county, and receive grant money from the Kansas Department on Aging annually.

In November and December 2010, ten K-State Research and Extension (KSRE) agents reported**:**

- Helping guide 3536 Medicare beneficiaries to compare insurance company plans and reevaluate their Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage.
- The number of counseled beneficiaries increased by 1442 from fall 2009.
- $1.9 million was saved by Kansas Medicare beneficiaries or an average of $513 per person who switched to another Part D plan
- 2,798 face-to-face SHICK appointments
- 2,442 SHICK phone calls.

BACKGROUND:

Nearly 400,000 Kansans are currently 65 or older. As many as one in seven Kansans are currently on Medicare. Each fall, these older Kansans need to reevaluate their Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan for possible changes in coverage and costs -- an annual struggle for many seniors and their families.

KSRE partners with the Kansas Department on Aging-SHICK, a no-fee program offering older Kansans an opportunity to talk with trained SHICK Counselors. SHICK Counselors help people understand the Medicare program so new enrollees at age 65 can make informed decisions, enrolled Medicare beneficiaries can knowledgably compare Prescription Drug Coverage plans, and Medicare-eligible seniors can be informed about and helped to apply for the Social Security Low Income Subsidy (LIS). Other partners include Social Security and Area Agencies on Aging.

Thirteen KSRE agents have completed and maintain certified SHICK Counselor status through a rigorous Kansas Dept on Aging annual training and certification process. Many actively recruit other agents and community volunteers to become SHICK certified. Over time KSRE has trained 41 plus counselors, out of a total of 300 volunteers in the state.

► See accompanying 3 page report by SHICK Coordinator, Sarah Taylor for more details.

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