



**TOWNSHIP OF  
SCHAUMBURG**

**SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISABILITY SERVICES**

# **ABLEGRAM**

**November—December 2019**

**Township Officials**

**SUPERVISOR**  
Timothy M. Heneghan

**CLERK**  
W. Robert Vinnedge

**TRUSTEE**  
Diane Dunham

**TRUSTEE**  
Jeffrey S. Mytych

**TRUSTEE**  
Nimish Jani

**TRUSTEE**  
Charlotte Kegaris

**ASSESSOR**  
John Lawson, CIAO

**HIGHWAY  
COMMISSIONER**  
Scott M. Kegaris

**DISABILITY  
SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT**  
**847-285-4541**  
**DIRECT NUMBER**

847-884-0030  
MAIN PHONE

224-520-9763  
VIDEOPHONE

**DIRECTOR OF  
DISABILITY  
SERVICES**  
Megan Conway

**DEAF SERVICES  
COORDINATOR**  
Sarita Phadke

**PR/EVENT  
COORDINATOR**  
Lauren Ewan

**BENEFIT  
SPECIALIST**  
Ami-Nell Scurry

**BENEFIT  
SPECIALIST**  
Sharon DeMarchi-  
Belter



**THE TOWNSHIP OF SCHAUMBURG  
DISABILITY SERVICES**

*Holiday*

# **PARTY**

*December 14  
12-2pm*

Join us for a holiday luncheon at the Township of Schaumburg to meet Santa in a sensory-friendly environment! The party is intended for children with disabilities and their siblings. All children age 16 and younger will receive a gift from Santa!

Please RSVP with Disability Services by December 3rd at 847-884-0030 or 224-520-9763 (VP). Space is limited. A sign language interpreter will be provided.



# Medicaid and Medicare News!

## HFS Change to Medicaid Reimbursement of Physicians

Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) policy change requires all practitioners who order, refer, or prescribe Medicaid services to be enrolled through the Illinois Medicaid Program Advanced Cloud Technology (IMPACT) as a participating physician, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist, advanced practical nurse or a physician assistant by November 1, 2019. **HFS will reject claims if the attending provider is not an individual or is not enrolled in IMPACT.** If the prescribing doctor is NOT enrolled with IL Medicaid, IL Medicaid will not pay for the item/service which includes: drugs, durable medical equipment, diapers, referrals to another doctor, etc.

This policy affects any person who is enrolled in Traditional Medicaid. It also applies to individuals who are “dual eligible” (having both Medicare and IL Medicaid.) The requirement that physicians be enrolled will extend to crossover claims (where Medicare is primary, and Medicaid is secondary). To receive the 20% payment from Medicaid, the prescriber(s) will need to be enrolled with IL Medicaid.

This does NOT YET apply to individuals enrolled in a Medicaid MCO (Managed Care Organization). They will be following this requirement at a later date.

There is an exception for drugs filled by Medicare Part D. IL Medicaid does not pay secondary to Medicare Part D, except in a very limited circumstance. When a pharmacy bills Medicare Part D, the Medicare Part D plan is responsible for the entire cost of the drug, even if the member is dual eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. IL Medicaid allows Medicare Part D copay only billing for a very small subset of individuals who are not eligible for a waiver and live in a specific type of supported living arrangement. This policy would apply to those claims.

If you go to the pharmacy and IL Medicaid does not pay for your drug, there will be a one-time (per drug) override for the first month. To get an override, call 877-782-5565.

For more information, please call the Arc of Illinois at 815-464-1832.

(The Arc of Illinois Update Email 9/24/19)

## Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) Program Important Reminder

People with Medicare who are in the QMB program are also enrolled in Medicaid and get help with their Medicare premiums and cost-sharing. This is a reminder that providers are NOT allowed to bill you for remainder costs! If you are being billed please contact the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid (CMS) at 877-267-2323 or our department can assist you at 847-285-4541.

## Medicare Parts C/D Open Enrollment

The annual open enrollment period for Medicare Parts C (Medicare Advantage) and D (Prescription Drug) ends December 7, 2019. The Township’s Disability Department has trained Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) counselors available to review your options for 2020 to ensure that you select the best plan for you at the lowest cost possible. Plans can change from year to year and staff can share what options are available to you and assist you in choosing a plan. New plans are effective January 1, 2020. **Appointments are required by calling 847-285-4541.** You will need to bring your Medicare card and complete list of prescriptions, dosage, quantity and frequency. New this year, you will have to create an online account with [mymedicare.gov](http://mymedicare.gov) for personalized options. The Township is not affiliated with any insurance group and does not sell plans. For more information, visit [medicare.gov](http://medicare.gov) or call 1-800-633-4227.

## Medicaid Copayments Eliminated

Effective September 1, 2019, Medicaid copayments are eliminated for individuals enrolled in the following Medicaid eligibility categories:

- Aid for the Aged, Blind or Disabled (AABD)
- Health Benefits for Workers with Disabilities (HBWD)
- Family Care
- ACA Adults

Previously, individuals in one of these medical programs would have had to pay a copayment of \$3.90 for services such as emergency room visits, prescription drugs, inpatient hospital stays, and clinic/physician visits.

**Individuals who are not exempt are participants receiving coverage through All Kids Share, All Kids Premium Level 1 and Level 2 and Illinois Veterans Care.**

(Age Options Email 9/4/19)

# Programs and Special Events

## Village of Hoffman Estates Commission for People with Disabilities First Friday Events

The Village of Hoffman Estates' Commission for People with Disabilities is hosting First Friday events November 1st and December 6th from 6:30—8:30 p.m. for people with disabilities ages 14 and older at the Hoffman Estates Village Hall. Admission is free and registration is not required. There will be karaoke, various games and pizza for \$2/slice at both events.

The November 1st event is a sock hop with DJ Eric Brandt and the committee is graciously asking participants to bring socks, toiletries, calendars and puzzle books for veterans at Hines Hospital. On December 6th, participants can create a special holiday craft.

## NWSRA Sibshops Program

Date: Friday, November 15, 2019

Time: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Where: Hanover Park Community Center  
1919 Walnut Ave., Hanover Park

Northwest Special Recreation Association (NWSRA) has paired up with Building Great Beginnings for this AMAZING program. Through this collaborative program, siblings of children with special needs ages 5-12 are invited to play games, get creative with crafts and have fun! Teenagers that would like to volunteer at the program are welcome! To learn more about the program and to register please contact Lauren "LJ" Jevaney at [ljevaney@nwsra.org](mailto:ljevaney@nwsra.org) or 847-392-2828 ext.246. There is a \$5 fee to participate in the program.

## Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group

Monday, November 25

Monday, December 16

11 a.m.—12 p.m.

FREE

We invite anyone providing care to join us for a general support group. Share with others facing similar situations. Registration recommended at 847-884-0030.

## Prescription Drug Take Back Program

Thursday, November 14

10 a.m.— 1 p.m.

FREE

Stop at the Township during this special event where the Cook County Sheriff's Office will be available to accept unused or expired prescription or over-the-counter medications. No registration required.

## Talk Techy: Ice Cream Social Media

Tuesday, November 12

10—11 a.m. (Apple Users)

1:30—2:30 p.m. (Android Users)

FREE

Join Benefit Specialist Ami-Nell Scurry for the third installment on how to navigate touchscreen smartphones. The third class will be on social media. We will also be serving up some delicious ice cream. For more information and to sign up for the class please call the Township at 847-884-0030 and ask for Ami-Nell Scurry!

**\*\*Note: There will not be a class in December.**

## Goodman Theatre's Sensory-Friendly Performance of "A Christmas Carol"

Goodman Theatre is pleased to announce the sensory-friendly performance of "A Christmas Carol" on **Saturday, November 23rd at 2 p.m.** (Doors open at 1:30 p.m.)

This is a sensory-friendly/relaxed performance designed to create a performing arts experience that is intended for families with members who have autism or other social, cognitive and physical challenges that create sensory sensitivities.

Accommodations for the sensory-friendly performance includes:

- Lower sound level, especially for startling or loud sounds
- House lights remain on at a low level during the performance
- A reduction of strobe lighting or lighting focused on the audience
- Patrons are free to talk and leave their seats during the performance
- Designated quiet areas within the theater building
- Space throughout the theater for standing and movement
- Limited crowds and visitors at Goodman Theatre during the day and timing of the performance
- Goodman Theatre staff trained to be inviting and accommodating to families' needs

To purchase tickets for the sensory-friendly performance of "A Christmas Carol" visit [goodmantheatre.org](http://goodmantheatre.org), enter the promo code SENSORY at checkout.

For questions or more information please e-mail [Access@GoodmanTheatre.org](mailto:Access@GoodmanTheatre.org) or call Goodman Theatre's Box Office at 312-443-3800 (open daily noon to 5 p.m.).

# Agency Highlights

## Clearbrook Respite Services DHS Funded Program

### 1. Voucher Program

Clearbrook's voucher program will utilize our state funding in order to award families and caretakers with a stipend to use on allowable expenses. Families and caretakers who qualify for respite funding are those who currently receive NO DD-funded residential services and who have a child or adult diagnosed with an intellectual or developmental disability. Families who qualify can be allotted up to \$864 in respite voucher funding to purchase direct care support, special recreation programs, etc.

### 2. Residential Program

Clearbrook's residential program gives individuals 18 years or older who have been diagnosed with an intellectual/developmental disability a 24-hour stay in their respite CILAs. This program is provided to eligible families/individuals in order to help maintain stability and provide residential supervision via trained Clearbrook staff. Clearbrook has 4 homes located in Cook and McHenry counties.

### 3. Group Respite Program

Our state-funded group respite program will occur twice a month on Saturday at Clearbrook's CHOICE space in Crystal Lake. Persons eligible for this program are adults who have been diagnosed with an intellectual/developmental disability. Group respite will provide experiences of social interaction, inclusion, and exposure to the community during its program time.

### 4. In-Home Program

Under new state funding that began July 1, 2019, Clearbrook can now offer eligible families in-home support funded through DHS. Families would be granted up to 120 hours of in-home respite care through trained Clearbrook staff. Families will be asked to assist with the recruitment of staff. The hours can be grouped and used at the family's discretion, in order to provide a break when it is needed most to persons aged 3-years and older who have been diagnosed with a developmental disability.

For more information about these DHS-funded programs, please contact Michelle Bosco, Coordinator for Clearbrook's Respite Programs at 847-385-5335 or [Respite@Clearbrook.org](mailto:Respite@Clearbrook.org).

## Center for Enriched Living's (CEL) REACH Program

The REACH Adult Day Program at the Center for Enriched Living (CEL), is a year-round day program for young adults, 22 years of age and older, who have graduated from high school, who want to learn new skills, connect with the community, grow, achieve personal success and THRIVE!

With an emphasis on community, REACH members spend approximately 70 percent of their time out and connected to community partners. These community partners help us provide each member with a wide variety of experiences, from volunteer and work skills to recreation and social activities.

Working closely with staff, members determine monthly activities to incorporate a broad range of interests and activities - relationship building, job skills training, culinary arts, community explorations, creative expression, current events and more. Each member works with staff to develop an annual REACH for Success plan, to help achieve individual goals throughout the year.

### REACH Program Information:

- REACH runs year-round, Monday - Friday, from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm - choose from one or all five days!
- An extended day program is available for members who would like to start their day at 9:00 am
- Half-day options are available
- 6-, 9- and 12-month options available
- 6-month commitment required to begin
- Low member to staff ratio at 5:1, with additional staffing support available
- Free trial day allows you to experience how the program runs
- 30-day assessment month creates an opportunity to determine support needs and ensure program is a good fit
- Annual REACH for Success plan provides opportunities to achieve individual goals

Contact CEL's Outreach Coordinator at 847-315-9920 or [info@CenterForEnrichedLiving.org](mailto:info@CenterForEnrichedLiving.org)!

# News You Can Use

## Holiday Donors Still Needed!

Every year, the Township is fortunate to work with numerous people, businesses, and agencies to serve those in-need during the holiday season. The Township sponsors “adoption” programs which provides care packages and essentials to older adults, persons with disabilities, and families facing a tough time.

We are still looking for donors who are interested in “adopting” a person with a disability this holiday season. Please contact Amy Fillmore in Welfare Services at [afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org](mailto:afillmore@schaumburgtownship.org) or at 847-884-0030.

Each donor is matched and purchases care package essentials for the person. All applicants are screened by Township staff. We appreciate any and all support you can provide this program. If you prefer, we are also extremely grateful for any cash or gift card donations which can also be used to assist our neighbors. Help your neighbors and consider donating today.

## SSA Announces COLA Increase

Social Security Administration recently announced the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for 2020 benefits. Starting in 2020, Social Security payments will increase 1.6%. The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) amount will be \$783 for an individual and \$1,175 for a couple. At the date of our printing, the Medicare premium cost have not been announced. The final amount may be announced as late as December. Call 847-285-4541 with any questions.

## SNAP Issues New Income Guidelines

The State of Illinois recently announced new income limits for the SNAP program. SNAP provides monthly assistance toward your grocery bill that can be used at most area grocery stores to purchase things like fresh produce, dairy, canned goods, meat, and more. For households with a person over the age of sixty or with a disability, income guidelines are as follows:

### Gross Monthly Income Guidelines

1 person household	\$2,082
2 person household	\$2,818
3 person household	\$3,555

Township staff are trained to help file SNAP applications. Benefits are available on a Link card and reloaded automatically each month. SNAP benefits are available to all who qualify—you would not be “taking” from someone else if you apply. The process is simple and we are happy to help! Call 847-285-4541 to schedule your appointment.



## Holiday Closings

The Township will be closed at noon on **Wednesday, November 27, and on Thursday, November 28 and 29 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

The Township will also be closed at noon on **Tuesday, December 24 and on Wednesday, December 25 for the Christmas Holiday.**

The Township will close at noon on **Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year's Holiday.** We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season!

## Telephone Check In Program

Between the Polar Vortex, tornadoes, and extreme heat, the weather in our area is unpredictable to say the least. We are creating a new list of people in our community who would like to be contacted in case of emergency or extreme weather. In the event of extreme weather or other situation, staff or volunteers would reach out and touch base with the resident. The Disability Department staff will then work with other providers or departments to establish services, if needed. If you would like to be added to our call list, please contact 847-285-4541 and we will get the necessary information!



## Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club Hearing Aid Assistance Program

The Lions of Illinois Foundation and the Schaumburg-Hoffman Lions Club can assist Township residents 18 years and older obtain reconditioned over-the-ear style hearing aids and exams at a discounted price. Applicants can apply in the Disability Services Department with Lauren Ewan. Applicants will be screened for the program by appointment only. There is no income limit for the program. For more information or to apply for the program, please contact Lauren Ewan at 847-884-0030 ext. 2025 or [lewan@schaumburgtownship.org](mailto:lewan@schaumburgtownship.org).

## Referral Binder

The Disability Services Department recently updated the referral binder that lists community resources for support groups, events, social service programs, recreational activities, transportation and more! Stop by and take a look.

# Other News for You!

## SHIP Program

The Schaumburg Township Disability Services Department provides free health insurance counseling through the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP). Our department has trained counselors who can assist you with Medicare, Medicaid, and prescription drug issues. ***SHIP does not affiliate with any insurance company and does not sell or solicit any type of insurance.*** Please call for an appointment or for information.

## Medicaid Redetermination

The Illinois Medicaid Redetermination Project (IMRP) will be reviewing Medicaid recipients benefits yearly to ensure they are still eligible for benefits. Many individuals on Medicaid will receive a letter and a redetermination form explaining that they need to renew their Medicaid coverage. The letter may request additional documentation to support the individual's redetermination. It is very important to respond to this as soon as possible. Failure to respond, could result in losing Medicaid benefits. The Disability Department can assist you with your Medicaid paperwork at 847-285-4541. We look forward to assisting you!

## Free Amplified Telephones and Cell Phone Amplifiers

The Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) offers free amplified telephones and two cell phone amplifiers for qualified Illinois residents with a certified hearing loss. Disability Services is a selection center to test the phones. There are five phones to choose from and **every three years you are eligible for another free amplified telephone and/or cell phone amplifier.** Please contact disability services for more information, or for an appointment to test the phones and/or cell phone amplifiers.

## Collection Spot

Our department is a collection site for various household items. Please drop off items between 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Eyeglasses, sunglasses, hearing aids and hearing aid batteries for the **Lions Club**
- Pop can tabs for **Ronald McDonald House Charities**
- Small electronics: VCR, DVD, cords, cell phones, etc. for **Avenues to Independence**
- Calendars and greeting cards (new or used) for **Connect to Community**

## Caregiver Support Packages

November is National Caregiver Month! To recognize the time, energy, and effort of family caregivers, the Township would like to say “**THANK YOU**” with a special care package. If you are caring for a loved one—spouse, partner, adult child, friend, or relative with a disability, please come to Disability Services in November to pick up a package. We hope this package brings you joy and reminds you that you are not alone. Packages available while supplies last.

## Monday and Friday Retail Shopping Trips Schedule With the Township Bus

Below are the **Monday and Friday** retail shopping trips schedule for November and December. Reservations are required by calling the transportation department at 847-882-1929.

### November

Monday—4th  
Friday—8th

WALMART  
850 S. Barrington Road  
Streamwood

Monday—11th  
Friday—15th

TARGET  
2621 Schaumburg Road  
Schaumburg

Monday—18th  
Friday—22nd

WALMART  
801 Meacham Road  
Elk Grove Village

Monday—25th

TARGET  
1235 Higgins Road  
Schaumburg

### December

Monday—2nd  
Friday—6th

WALMART  
850 S. Barrington Road  
Streamwood

Monday—9th  
Friday—13th

TARGET  
2621 Schaumburg Road  
Schaumburg

Monday—16th  
Friday—20th

WALMART  
801 Meacham Road  
Elk Grove Village

Monday—23rd  
Friday—27th

TARGET  
1235 Higgins Road  
Schaumburg

Monday—30th

WALMART  
850 S. Barrington Road  
Streamwood

# Holiday Party

Thursday, December 12, 2019  
11-1:30pm | \$15

Chandler's Chophouse  
401 N. Roselle Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60194

RSVP by  
Dec. 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Join us for raffle prizes, games, a 3-course lunch and musical entertainment! New this year, the Holiday Party is first come first served. To RSVP, each guest must return a completed form and submit payment (\$15) by December 2nd. Additional registration forms can be found in Disability Services or on our website. Once we submit a final count, we will be unable to issue a refund.

Please note, if you are under the age of sixty and have not previously registered with Disability Services, you will need to attach proof of disability as well. We look forward to celebrating with you!

**Please submit the completed form and payment to:**

Township of Schaumburg  
1 Illinois Blvd.  
Hoffman Estates, IL, 60169  
Attn: Disability Services



**Township of Schaumburg  
 Disability Services Department  
 1 Illinois Boulevard  
 Hoffman Estates, IL 60169**

**Phone: 847.884.0030**

**Deaf Services Videophone: 224-520-9763**

**www.schaumburgtownship.org**

**f @SchaumburgTownship**

**t @SchaumburgTwp**

**PRSRT STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
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 PERMIT NO. 154  
 SCHAUMBURG, IL**



Get quicker access to Disability Services at **847-285-4541!**  
 Call **847-285-4541** and speak directly with Helen Bisioulis who  
 will be more than happy to assist you.

# Holiday Party

**RSVP by  
 Dec. 2**

Join us for raffle prizes, games, a  
 3-course lunch and musical entertainment!

New this year, the Holiday Party is first come first  
 served. To RSVP, each guest must return a  
 completed form and submit payment (\$15) by  
 December 2nd. Additional registration forms can  
 be found in Senior Services or on our website.  
 Once we submit a final count, we will be unable to  
 issue a refund.

Please note, if you are under the age of sixty and  
 have not previously registered with Disability  
 Services, you will need to attach proof of  
 disability as well.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Party  
 Details and  
 Registration  
 on p.7!

