Health Insurance Literacy Initiative (HILI)
Fall / Winter 2020

Program Delivery

Maria Pippidis developed Health Insurance 4U, a series of short videos and other resources that increase confidence around choosing a health insurance plan. It is designed for consumers and small business owners.

Maria Pippidis developed Farm Operations and Health Care Insurance Options to provide information for farmers about health insurance options.

Professional Development

Jesse Ketterman, Maria Pippidis, Dorothy Nuckols, and Carrie Sorenson facilitated three professional development workshops reaching 91 individuals in 2020.

Certified Educator Training

Carrie Sorenson, Dorothy Nuckols, Jesse Ketterman, and Maria Pippidis led a Certified Educator Training for Kansas State University Extension reaching 29 educators. The training was conducted virtually over three days in August. The training included Smart Choice Basics, Smart Use Smart Actions, Smart Use Understanding and

Consumer Education

The HILI team offered 29 consumer workshops in 2020 reaching 346 individuals. Information about the educational modules we provide is available at https://extension.umd.edu/insure.

Jesse Ketterman, Maria Pippidis, Dorothy Nuckols and Carrie Sorenson wrote and posted eight blog articles related to health insurance on the Family and Consumer Sciences, Breathing Room blog site (https://breathingroom.umd.edu/). Titles of the posts include,

Time is Running ! Open Enrollment ends Dec. 15th!
Health Insurance Open Enrollment – Are You Ready?
Mental Health Insurance Benefits
Understanding Medicare
Cheers to Your Health Insurance
Choosing a New Doctor
Get the Most Out of Your Health Insurance
What to Do if You’ve Lost Your Insurance

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Estimating Health Care Costs, and Smart Choice / Smart Use Health Insurance in Your Senior Years.

Curricula Development

Dorothy Nuckols completed the development of the latest Smart Use module titled, Managing Health Insurance Conflicts.

Jesse Ketterman led the team in developing an online Certified Educator program using the eXtension campus platform. Implementation will begin in 2021.

Maria Pippidis developed a workshop focusing on health insurance options for farmers and small business owners.

Scholarship

Dorothy Nuckols, Lisa McCoy, Jesse Ketterman, Catherine Sorenson, Chenzi Wang, Crystal Terhune, and Virginia Brown wrote a research article titled, Understanding Health Insurance Benefits: Implications for Health and Policy. The article was submitted in August to the Journal of Human Sciences in Extension. The team is currently working on revisions.

Jesse Ketterman, Bonnie Braun, and Maria Pippidis authored Extension Programming to Build Farm and Farm Family Resilience published in the Journal of Extension in October.

The HILI team completed the pilot study of the Health Insurance in Your Senior Years module. Maria Pippidis and Jesse Ketterman co-developed the module. Participants reported a significant increase in confidence in their ability to understand health care options and estimate health care costs in their senior years. The Healthcare in Your Senior Years – Findings Revealed report can be viewed on the Insure website. The team appreciates the support from Chenzi Wang.

The team entered the pilot phase for a new module titled, Managing Health Insurance Conflicts developed by Dorothy Nuckols. The team will focus on the implementation of the new module in 2021.
HILI team members presented six peer reviewed presentations and two poster presentations at the NEAFCS Annual Conference, AFCPE Annual Symposium, Maryland Rural Health Conference and the Mid-Atlantic Women in Agriculture Conference. Leading the proposals were Lisa McCoy, Dorothy Nuckols, Jesse Ketterman, and Maria Pippidis.

Conference titles include:

1) Taking the Confusion Out of Health Insurance
2) Protecting Health and Financial Well-Being: Managing and Resolving Health Insurance Disputes
3) The Case for Case Narratives and Active Engagement for Measurable Adult Education Outcomes
4) Healthcare in Your Senior Years, Creating Thriving Farms – Tools You Can Use with Farmers, Professionals, and Communities
5) Farmers Need FCS Too!
6) Understanding Health Insurance Benefits
7) Protecting Health, Protecting Financial Well-Being Through Health Insurance Empowerment
8) Understanding Health Insurance Benefits

Of Note—

Maria Pippidis was recognized with the Ratledge Family Community Service Award and the Excellence in Extension Award by the University of Delaware. Jesse Ketterman was recognized with the 4-7 Year Award through the NEAFCS MD Affiliate Chapter.

Acknowledgement

This health insurance literacy initiative was launched in 2012 with funding from University of Maryland Extension, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and University of Delaware Cooperative Extension, the University of Maryland--College Park and supplemental revenue generation.

Initiative Team:


University of Delaware Cooperative Extension – Maria Pippidis

For more updates visit the Insuring Your Health website.