Ridgefield Social Services and its team of CHOICES certified Medicare counselors will once again be offering free reviews to Ridgefield residents. These reviews will provide a confidential review of your prescription drug coverage, an explanation of benefits and general assistance with Medicare. Because Medicare prescription drug plans make changes each year to premiums, coverage, and network providers, counselors will determine what plan covers all your medications for the lowest cost.

It is important to note that Open Enrollment, October 15<sup>th</sup> – December 7<sup>th</sup>, is the only time during the year you can change your prescription coverage for 2021. The Center for Medicare Advocacy urges beneficiaries to "carefully weigh all their Medicare coverage options annually". Last year the reviews done by CHOICES Medicare counselors were expected to save Ridgefield residents, in total, over \$130,000 this year.

As with so many things – due to Covid-19, the review sessions will be done remotely. Before your appointment you will be asked to complete a form providing your name, phone, email, current coverage, medications etc. These forms may be picked up at the Town Hall info office, or by emailing <a href="mailto:municipalagent@ridgefieldct.org">municipalagent@ridgefieldct.org</a>. Once you have completed the form, you will need to contact Karen Gaudian by phone – 203.431.2754 - or by email - <a href="municipalagent@ridgefieldct.org">municipalagent@ridgefieldct.org</a> – to make arrangements to drop off the form and to make an appointment for a counselor to call you to explain your options to you.

For more information on any of our programs please contact Karen Gaudian using her phone number or email address listed above.

This program is made possible through the joint efforts of the Ridgefield Department of Social Services, the Ridgefield Library, Founders Hall the Western CT Area Agency on Aging (WCAAA), and additional support from the Commission on Aging (COA).

CHOICES counselors are trained to provide unbiased information and counseling on Medicare, Medigap, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Programs, Long Term Care Insurance and other state and federal programs. The WCAAA is one of five Area Agencies on Aging in CT and is a private, not-for-profit organization which serves the needs of older adults or individuals with disabilities.