



Michael R. Pence, Governor
State of Indiana

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Division of Aging Update April 21, 2016

Deadline for 2016 Golden Hoosier Award Nominations Fast Approaching!

[Lt. Governor Eric Holcomb](#), in collaboration with the [Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's \(FSSA\) Division of Aging](#), announced last month that nominations are being accepted for the 2016 Golden Hoosier Awards through **April 29, 2016**. The award, which began in 2008, annually honors older Hoosiers for their lifetime of service and commitment to their communities. The award is considered one of the highest honors given by the State of Indiana to older adults.

"Indiana is home to many seniors who transform their communities through their tireless service. By working with youth programs, volunteering at local food shelters, and so much more, these Hoosiers have a transformational impact on making our cities and towns even better places to live," said Holcomb. "It is my honor to recognize these special individuals for their important contributions, and I encourage everyone to nominate a senior Hoosier that has dedicated his or her life to giving back."

To be eligible for the Golden Hoosier Award, the nominee must currently be an Indiana resident, age 65 or older and have been a volunteer in the community for the past three years.

Additional guidelines and the nomination form are available [here](#) or at www.lg.in.gov.

Completed applications must be submitted online by April 29, 2016.

The awards will be presented to the selected 2016 Golden Hoosier recipients on June 3, 2016, at the Indiana Statehouse.

Need assistance with Medicare Part D premiums?

The HoosierRx program can assist eligible Indiana residents pay the monthly premium, up to \$70 per month, for members enrolled in a Medicare Part D Plan (contracted with HoosierRx).

Interested older adults are asked to complete a short, one-page application and send it to HoosierRx. To take advantage of the HoosierRx program, you must:



- Be an Indiana resident, 65 years old or older.
- Have a yearly income of \$18,060 or less for a single person, or \$24,276 or less for a married couple living together.
- Have applied for the “Medicare Extra Help” through Social Security to pay for your Medicare Part D plan, and received either a “Notice of Award” or “Notice of Denial” from Social Security.
 - Your Social Security “Notice of Denial” must be because your resources are above the limit established by law.
 - Your Social Security “Notice of Award” must state you are receiving a partial extra help subsidy to help pay for your Medicare Part D premium.

If you think you meet these eligibility requirements, an application can be downloaded on the [HoosierRx Web page here](#). You can also call a HoosierRx representative at 1-866-267-4679, who will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the HoosierRx program.

May 2016 is Older Americans Month

May is when we celebrate Older American’s Month (OAM), and acknowledge the continuing contributions of older adults to our nation. The 2016 OAM theme is [Blaze a Trail](#). The Administration for Community Living uses OAM each year as an opportunity to raise awareness about important issues facing older adults. The celebration also highlights the ways older Americans are advocating for themselves, their peers and their communities.

Be a trailblazer! Join others to promote activities, inclusion, and wellness for older Americans in your community.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 15, 2016

Each year, an estimated 5 million older persons are abused, neglected and exploited. In addition, elders throughout the United States lose an estimated \$2.6 billion or more annually due to elder financial abuse and exploitation, funds that could have been used to pay for basic needs such as housing, food and medical care. Unfortunately, no one is immune to abuse, neglect and exploitation. It occurs in every demographic, and can happen to anyone—a family member, a neighbor, even you. Yet it is estimated that only about one in five of those crimes are ever discovered.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was launched on June 15, 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations. The purpose of WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect. WEAAD also supports the United Nations International Plan of Action, which acknowledges the significance of elder abuse as a public health and human rights issue.

WEAAD serves as a call-to-action for individuals, organizations and communities to raise awareness about elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. It is an opportunity to raise awareness, engage new partners, and renew our collective commitment to the cause of elder justice. Each

year, WEAAD draws more participants, garners more attention, and moves us closer to our national goals for elder justice. One way you can get involved is by organizing an event in your community. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) offers a variety of resources to help you and your community raise awareness around WEAAD 2016.

Visit [ACL's WEAAD website](#), developed in partnership with the National Center on Elder Abuse, to find some great ideas for organizing a WEAAD event in your community.