



**Kentucky Public Health**

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## **Don't Let the Holidays Keep You From Getting the Medication You Need**

*52 Weeks of Public Health Spotlight: Kentucky Prescription Assistance Program*



**Released December 11, 2017**



**FRANKFORT, Ky. (December 11, 2017)** – Even with insurance, the cost of medication can be a heavy financial burden for many families. In this week's 52 Weeks of Public Health, the Kentucky Department for Public Health within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services is educating Kentuckians about prescription assistance programs available to those in need this holiday season.

During the holiday season, many Kentuckians will stop taking their medication due to the increased financial costs we all experience around the holidays. However, help is available! The Kentucky Prescription Assistance Program (KPAP) helps provide families with access to prescription drug programs offered by drug manufacturers, discount drug programs and discount pharmacy programs. These programs offer prescription drugs for free or at reduced costs for qualifying individuals and/or their families.

KPAP utilizes "high tech-high touch" technology to coordinate existing assistance programs offered by prescription drug companies to match eligible applicants with programs. The program works with major drug companies to significantly lower the cost of most expensive prescription medications and offers copay relief for qualified applicants. This service has saved patients hundreds of dollars each month on prescriptions.

Eligibility for the program is based on income guidelines set by each individual drug manufacturer usually between 200-400% of federal poverty level. Even senior citizens in the Medicare “doughnut hole” may be eligible for assistance. Clients whose income or resources make them ineligible for existing drug assistance programs through drug manufacturers will receive consultation about other sources of low-cost prescriptions available to them.

KPAP community organizers collaborate with medical personnel, social service agencies, faith based organizations, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations and clinics to provide information about KPAP and the software used by the program. Once an agency decides to participate, KPAP can assist in organizing and developing a volunteer network of staff to get the program started in your agency or community.

If your agency is interested in becoming a KPAP partner site, please contact the [Kentucky Department for Public Health Care Access Branch](#) at **(800) 633-8100**.

Interested in learning more about healthy Kentucky lifestyle? Through our 52 Weeks of Public Health campaign, the Kentucky Department for Public Health will spotlight public health issues as well as highlight services and resources available to Kentuckians statewide. Follow us on [Facebook](#) for your weekly tip.