

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9th, 2004

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Senior Citizens to Benefit and Learn More Regarding the Wise Use of Medicines

Michigan Coalition Highlights Senior Support Programs During Michigan Aging in Place Week Through One Week of Free Seminars Offered to Southeast Michigan Senior Citizens.

(Northville, MI) – Too many older Americans are admitted to hospitals as a result of problems with the use of medicines. There are tens of thousands of these admissions each year that cost millions of dollars in related health care. Highly respected Southeast Michigan Pharmacist Ike Engelbaum says "Half the admissions that occur as a result of problems with medicines are avoidable."

The Michigan Aging In Place Coalition, with support from the Aging In Place Council, is doing its part to reduce the incidence of incorrect use of medicines through a free seminar being offered Tuesday, November 9th as part of Michigan Aging In Place Week. Engelbaum will host the seminar and will speak to seniors regarding what questions they should ask their pharmacist, hints on medicine usage, and many other interesting pieces of information regarding pharmaceuticals. The aim of the seminar is to:

- Empower senior citizens to ask their doctor or pharmacist about their medicines.
- Encourage senior citizens to ask their doctor or pharmacist about their condition, their treatment, and both their prescribed and non prescribed (over the counter) medicines.

In addition to hosting the seminar entitled, "The Wise Use of Medicines", the Michigan Aging In Place Coalition, with support from the Aging In Place Council is hosting a series of talks aimed at improving the lives of seniors. The complete list of seminars for Tuesday, November 9th are as follows:

2004 Michigan Aging In Place Week Presentations and Events Schedule for Tuesday, November 9th, 9am – 1pm

Location: National MS Society
21311 Civic Center Dr.
Southfield, MI 48339

“Grieving and End of Life Planning”

Jim Stokes

Office of Governor Jennifer M. Granholm

When: 9:30 – 10:15, Tuesday, November 9th

“Personal Emergency Response Systems”

Jean Hampton, RN

Lifeline Systems, Inc.

When: 10:30 – 11:15, Tuesday, November 9th

“The Wise Use of Medicines”

Ike Engelbaum, R.Ph.

Pharmacist

When: 11:30 – 12:15, Tuesday, November 9th

“Walking Works”

Jorie L. Wyatt

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

When: 12:15 – 12:30, Tuesday, November 9th

The events are being organized by Michael J. Gruley, a Certified Senior Advisor and Reverse Mortgage Specialist with First Financial Mortgage in Northville, with support from the Governor’s Office and the State Agency on Aging.

**For more information or to register for these events, the public can call:
1-800-720-7003**