

News From
SENATOR LINCOLN CHAFEE
RHODE ISLAND



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, August 7, 2003

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CHAFEE ANNOUNCES \$175,000 GRANT FOR AGING 2000
Funding for Senior Medicare Patrol Project

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today announced that the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Administration on Aging has awarded a \$175,000 Senior Medicare Patrol Grant to Aging 2000 of Providence.

The Senior Medicare Patrol project educates retired, senior volunteers to help Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries to be better health care consumers. Older Rhode Islanders, their families and care providers learn how to both identify and report Medicare and Medicaid fraud, waste and abuse. Since 1997, when Aging 2000 first received the award, Medicare fraud overpayments have been reduced from \$23 billion in 1997 to \$12 billion in 2002.

Aging 2000 Executive Director Mary Callahan-Cimini is proud of the work that has been done. “We now have to focus on the baby boomers in this educational effort. The baby boomers are not only entering the Medicare system; they are also taking care of their aged parents. The solvency of the program is dependent on them”

Aging 2000’s partners in this collaboration include the RI Department of Elderly Affairs, the Alliance for Better Long Term Care, RSVP, West Bay Community Action and the Urban League of Rhode Island.

According to Ms. Callahan-Cimini, Aging 2000 is currently recruiting retired volunteers to assist in this effort. The agency is planning a fall training session, which will include the federal partners in the Operation Restore Trust program. For more information, contact Project Coordinator Lisa Purcell at 401 521-7930.

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