

Lake Area United Way

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**FOR IMMEDIATE
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Lake Area United Way Begins Distributing Free FamilyWize Prescription Discount Cards

New Initiative Helps People with No or Limited Health Insurance or Drug Coverage

(Griffith, Indiana) – The Lake Area United Way (LAUW) has begun distributing free FamilyWize prescription drug discount cards at locations throughout the community to help people lower the cost of their medicine by as much as 20-30% or more.

FREE! TAKE ONE!
SAVE UP TO 30% OR MORE!
¡LLEVE GRATIS!
**Ahorros Inmediatos
Para Medicamentos**

Lake Area United Way United Way

FREE PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT CARD

familywize
www.FAMILYWIZE.org

FOR EVERYONE – FOR IMMEDIATE USE

- Accepted Nationwide by Most Pharmacies - for All Prescriptions Not Covered by Insurance
- Use as Often as Needed - Make Copies for Friends and Co-Workers

THIS IS NOT INSURANCE – DISCOUNTS ONLY

Member ID 080109
Group ID 39701
BIN 610194
PCN FW
Pharmacies: 877-HELP-977 Members: 866-810-3784 Expires: December 31, 2020

FamilyWize cards can be found at multiple sites throughout the community and are available free-of-charge. There are no age or income restrictions, no limits on how many times people can use it, and it's easy to get one.

"Healthcare costs are one of the top concerns for people in our community," said Dave Sikes, LAUW's Director of Allocations. "40% of adults don't buy the medicine they need, have difficulty affording it or reduce the required dosage because of the high cost of prescriptions."

"Too many people have no or insufficient medical and prescription drug coverage or need medications not covered by their insurance, Medicare, Medicaid or VA benefits. The FamilyWize prescription drug discount cards will help individuals and families who otherwise could not afford to buy the medicine they need," said Sikes.

"No one should be forced to choose between paying for food, rent or medicine because of the high cost of prescriptions. That's why we've partnered with FamilyWize to distribute these cards," added Sikes.

People with internet access can go to United Way's website at www.lauw.org or to www.FamilyWize.org to print out a card, look up drug prices and obtain a list of local participating pharmacies. Cards are also available at Lake Area United Way agencies and township trustee offices.

Sikes said that area residents have already saved \$40,119 just by using the FamilyWize card. Through April 2010, Lake County residents have made 1,712 claims resulting in an averaging savings of 42% discount or \$23.43 per prescription.

“That’s a significant savings especially for people in these hard economic times living on low or fixed incomes,” Sikes added.

Where to Get a FamilyWize Card

- To print out a card, go to:
 - www.lauw.org
 - www.FamilyWize.org
 - Local Public Library
- Participating Local Pharmacies
- Lake County Township Trustee Offices
- United Way Member Agencies

Larry Sharp, executive director of International Community Alliance, says his multi-ethnic community service bureau has distributed 500 FamilyWize cards to his agency’s clients.

“People are taking the cards and using them. Just by presenting the FamilyWize card at their local pharmacy, customers save on the cost of their prescription medicine 80% of the time. In some cases customers are already getting the lowest price so the card can’t help them. But for those who benefit from using it, the card is a blessing,” Sharp said.

How It Works

Simply present your FamilyWize card with each prescription from your doctor to the participating pharmacy at the time of purchase to receive your discounts.

Your cost will be the discount price with the FamilyWize card or the pharmacy’s usual and customary retail price, whichever is lower. This means cardholders are assured the lowest price in that store, at the time they purchase their prescription medicine. If the pharmacy’s price is lower, there is no savings or discount and the FamilyWize card cannot lower the co-pay for medicine covered by insurance.

The savings on the cost of the medicine is provided by the pharmacies. They agreed to accept prices for medications that are close to the prices they make available to large insurance companies and employers. All other program costs were provided by in-kind donations from national corporate sponsors.

Lake Area United Way has joined more than 950 sister chapters in all 50 states to save Americans over \$50 million in the next year on the cost of their medicine using the FamilyWize card. To date, more than 14 million cards have been distributed.

Special Note to the Media:

If you need additional information, please contact Dave Sikes on staff at the Lake Area United Way at (219) 923-2302, extension 303.