



Health Insurance Literacy Initiative (HILI) Status

Spring/Summer 2019

State, Regional and National Awards

The efforts of the Health Insurance Literacy Initiative continue to be recognized at the state, regional and national level. NEAFCS - MD Affiliate recognized the team with the Family Health and Wellness Team Award. At the regional level, the team was awarded the NEAFCS Eastern Region 1st place award in the Family Health & Wellness category and 2nd place in the Communications, Television or Video category. Thanks to **Lisa McCoy** and **Maria Pippidis** for leading the nominations.

Dorothy Nuckols and the HILI team have been awarded the 2019 AFCPE® Outstanding Symposium Poster Award for *Protecting Financial Well-Being: Managing and Resolving Health Insurance Disputes*.

Curricula / Program Development

Health and Farm Vitality

In January, the *Health and Farm Vitality* supplement was published in the *Delmarva Farmer*. The HILI team greatly appreciates the support and leadership **Maria Pippidis** and **Laura Wormuth** provided. The publication can be viewed at



<https://extension.umd.edu/insure/farmers-0>. The publication has been circulated to over 12,000 readers.

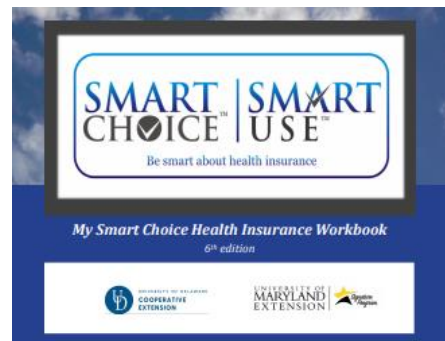
In April, **Maria Pippidis** and **Bonnie Braun** previewed the *Linking Farm Vitality and Health* video at the National Extension Risk Management Conference. The video is part of a tool kit being developed for farmers focusing on the link between health and farm vitality.

Certified Educator Training – Canvas Courses

In July, the team, guided by **Jesse Ketterman**, **Virginia Brown**, and **Lisa McCoy**, launched a certified educator course using Canvas for *Smart Use: Smart Actions for using Health Insurance*. In development are Canvas courses for *Smart Use Health Insurance: Understanding and Estimating Health Care Costs* and *Smart Choice Health Insurance: Basics*.

My Smart Choice Health Insurance Workbook

This summer the HILI team updated the *My Smart Choice Health Insurance Workbook*. The updated 6th addition can be found at <https://extension.umd.edu/insure/consumer-resources>.



Smart Use: Health Insurance Modules

In the coming months, the HILI team will launch two new Smart Use Health Insurance modules. **Maria Pippidis** and **Jesse Ketterman** have completed final revisions to the *Smart Use: Health Insurance in your Senior Years* Module and will launch the module in the fall.

Dorothy Nuckols is wrapping up the development of the *Smart Use Health Insurance: Managing Health Insurance and Resolving Conflicts* module with an intended launch in spring 2020.

Program Delivery

Consumer Education

Together Maryland and Delaware offered 10 consumer workshops in the first six months of the year. Information about the four modules we provide can be found at <https://extension.umd.edu/insure>.

Jesse Ketterman, **Jeanette Jeffrey** and **Maria Pippidis** were invited to present at the Mid-Atlantic Women in Agriculture Wednesday Webinar series. The presentation was entitled: *Emotional Well-Being: Warning Signs and Resources*. The archived presentation can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/womeninag/emotional-well-being-warning-signs-and-resources>

Jesse Ketterman wrote and posted three blog articles on the Family and Consumer Sciences, Breathing Room blog site (<https://breathingroom.umd.edu/>). Titles of the posts include “Do you know what your health insurance covers?; Suicide Prevention, How to get or provide help; and Health Insurance, are you ready for next year?”

Professional Development

In April, the team offered a webinar for certified educators seeking to expand their use of HILI programs.

Dorothy Nuckols and **Maria Pippidis** offered *Understanding and Estimating Health Care Costs: An Overview for Financial Professionals* as a pre-conference webinar for the Personal Finance Seminar in May.

In late August, the team will be providing a HILI update webinar for the 263 certified educators representing 31 states throughout the country. The purpose of the webinar is to update certified educators on new resources available, new case studies written for millennials and farm audiences, and changes in health insurance laws and policies.

Program Evaluation

The team is nearing the completion of the pilot study for the *Smart Use Health Insurance: Your Health Insurance Benefits* module. The results will be published this fall.

Peer-Reviewed Scholarship

In January, three fact sheets were approved through the UME fast track process. Congratulations to **Dorothy Nuckols**, **Priscilla Graves**, and **Jesse Ketterman** for their hard work. The fact sheets are “Are you drowning in health care costs papers” (FS-1085), “Medical Credit – Safety Net or Debt Trap?” (FS-1087), *Paying for Healthcare or Daycare? Flexible Spending Accounts Can Help!* (FS-1083).

Jesse Ketterman presented *Exploring Young Professionals’ Perspectives on Health Insurance* in January at the Family Economics and Resource Management Association (FERMA) Virtual Conference. Other team members involved in the project include **Ali Hurtado**, **T. McCoy**, and **Chenzi Wang**.

Maria Pippidis presented *Understanding and Estimating Health Care Costs for Farm Audiences* at the National Extension Risk Management Conference in April. **Jesse Ketterman** assisted with planning the presentation.

Maria Pippidis wrote Farm Operations and Health Care Insurance. The publication was reviewed by **Bonnie Braun, Jesse Ketterman, and Mia Russell.**

Maria Pippidis, Bonnie Braun, and Virginia Brown from the HILI team with **Laurie Wolinski**, Director, Northeast Extension Risk Management Education Center and **Shoshanah Inwood**, The Ohio State University presented *Linking Farm Vitality and Health: Tools You Can Use with Farmers, Farm Families, Professionals and Communities* at the National Extension Risk Management Conference in April of 2019.

The HILI team has proposals accepted for concurrent sessions and posters for presentation at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS), the Association for Financial Counseling, Planning, and Education (AFCPE®), and Epsilon Sigma Phi conferences this fall.

Non Peer-Reviewed Scholarship

Maria Pippidis presented the *Linking Farm Vitality and Family Health and Wealth* poster at the 2019 Delaware Ag Week.

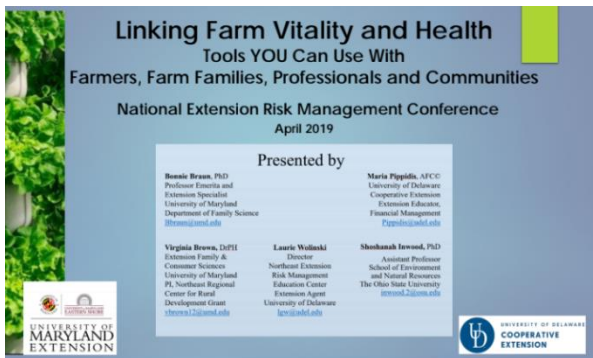
Carrie Sorenson and Lisa McCoy presented the *Smart Use Health Insurance: Understanding and Estimating Health Care Costs* poster at the University of Maryland, College Park, School of Public Health Research Day.

Of Note

The HILI team continues to appreciate the support and guidance provided by **Bonnie Braun and Lynn Little.**

Acknowledgement

This health insurance literacy initiative was launched in 2012 with funding from University of Maryland Extension, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and University of Delaware Cooperative Extension, the University of Maryland--College Park, and supplemental revenue generation.



Initiative Team:

University of Maryland Extension - **Virginia Brown, Ali Hurtado, Jesse Ketterman, Lisa McCoy, Teresa McCoy, Dorothy Nuckols, Carrie Rishell-Sorenson, Crystal Terhune and Chenzi Wang.** University of Delaware Cooperative Extension – **Maria Pippidis**

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