



## *To Residents and Employees of ABHOW Communities eligible for Medicare D (Prescription Drug Coverage)*

Many of you have asked for information regarding the new Medicare D Prescription Drug Coverage plan. There has been a great deal of information mailed to you from various agencies and so many of you have said that you are overwhelmed with all of the information and choices.

As you are aware, this is a Federal benefit program and each of you will have the opportunity to select a pharmacy provider for you. However, ABHOW will attempt to provide information to you that may be helpful when you make your decision.

November 15, 2005 is the first day you may enroll in the program. The initial enrollment period continues until May 15, 2006. Therefore, I think good advice is to **not feel rushed or pressured into making a quick decision.** There are many ramifications and time and information will make your choice easier.

Our communication plan:

- 1) November 14, 2005, Mr. Jack Cristy, Director of Public Policy for CASHA (California Association for Homes and Services for the Aging) met with the CCRC Executive Directors to give an overview of the program. A video tape has been made of that presentation and will be available in the communities.
- 2) Mr. Cristy then created a video focused on Affordable Housing resi-

dents and that tape will be available to Affordable Housing residents.

- 3) For Medicare eligible employees, the ABHOW Human Resources Department will be contacting you directly.
- 4) We are gathering a great deal of information from a variety of sources for distribution in the communities. This will include written material, contact numbers, as well as web sites that are helpful. We will also add all of the information to the abhow.com web site.
- 5) The packet of information and materials as well as the video will be sent directly to your Executive Director or Administrator. He/she will make this information available to you. Feel free to share it with your family members if they are working with you on your selection.
- 6) We anticipate the packet arriving to your community by the first week in December.
- 7) We will continue to update you on any new information through the ABHOW Communications.

We do hope that these efforts will assist each of you to make a careful and thoughtful decision.

Kay Kallander  
Sr. VP of Strategic Planning