



CONTACT

Mike Miller
(877) 764-2426, Ext. 142
mikemiller@smchcn.net

Dear Member of the Media,

Samaritan Ministries has a different approach to meeting health care needs, and we want you to know about it. That's why you have this media kit.

In this document, you'll find:

- » Facts about Samaritan.
- » Testimonies from Samaritan members.
- » A detailed written explanation of our ministry.
- » Contact information.

We hope you'll include us on stories you'll be doing about the health care debate.

Sincerely,

Mike Miller
Communications Specialist



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About Samaritan Ministries International

Samaritan Ministries International seeks to help members of the Body of Christ carry out the Great Commission through ministries that enable Christians to better obey Jesus' commands. This is currently done through the Christian Health Care Newsletter health care sharing ministry and The Morning Center maternity hospital ministry.

In the health care sharing ministry, a newsletter is mailed each month to all of the member households. Included with each newsletter is an individualized monthly share notice assigning that household to another member's medical need. Members are asked to mail their monthly share directly to another member, to include a note of encouragement and to pray for the member in need.

The current monthly share is \$135 for singles, \$270 for a couple, \$200 for a single-parent family, and \$320 for a family. The monthly share is also reduced \$30 per month for each member of the household who is age 65 or older. In addition, full-time students at Christian colleges and anyone 25 or under also pay reduced shares.

Any Christian who has a vision for practicing Christian community as explained in the SMI guidelines and agrees with the SMI statement of faith may join as a fully participating member.

SMI is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation founded in 1991 by Ted A. Pittenger. SMI's administrative offices are located in Peoria, Illinois. The organization's purpose is to operate ministries designed to assist the Body of Christ in carrying out the Great Commission that Jesus Christ gave to His disciples as recorded in Matthew 28:18-20.

The ministry is a member of the Alliance of Health Care Sharing Ministries.

For more information on Samaritan Ministries International, contact Mike Miller, communications specialist, at 1-877-764-2426, Ext. 142.

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How it works

- 1.** A member who has a medical need to be published sends the bills to the ministry office along with a completed Need Processing Form that explains the need.
- 2.** Members work with healthcare providers to obtain reductions and discounts. Samaritan also partners with the negotiators like the Karis Group.
- 3.** Member Services Specialists verify the information and prepare the need for publication.
- 4.** Publication works by way of an allocation system; members are notified to whom they'll send their share via a monthly share slip.
- 5.** Members receive the Christian Health Care Newsletter, pray using the daily Prayer Guide, and mail their shares directly to other members.
- 6.** A checklist with the names of those assigned to share in your need is provided to the receiving household so that the member can keep track of the sharing process and accountability.



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Samaritan Ministries International facts

- » Incorporated in 1991 and sharing needs since 1994.
- » Money is shared directly from member to member without the use of insurance.
- » Shares are \$150/month for a single person, \$215/month for a single-parent family, \$300/month for a couple and \$355/month for a couple with children.
- » Sharing levels are at about \$5 million per month.
- » More than 21,000 households are members.
- » Members live in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, several U.S. territories, and several countries.
- » SMI is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt charity, is registered as an Illinois not-for-profit corporation and is registered with the Illinois attorney general as a charity.
- » 20 states have laws specifically recognizing that health care sharing is not insurance. Those states are Arizona, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.
- » Members of health care sharing ministries are exempt from the individual mandate included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act.



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What our members say

Who would expect more than 80 percent?

Roland Rumbold, Roanoke, IL

“When we became members of Samaritan we did not realize that all of our medical expenses would be met if possible. We thought, ‘Who would ever expect more than 80 percent?’ God bless.”

The Lord provided our every need through His people

Chester and Sharon Webster, Summersville, MO

“I just wanted to say that the Samaritan Ministries members have been a tremendous blessing during both of my husband’s surgeries. The Lord has provided our every need through the generosity of His people. It was overwhelming that so many people we’ve never even met lifted us up in their prayers and sent kind words of encouragement. We appreciate each and every one of you.”

It works in a caring way

Nathan and Shanna Peachey, Bellville, PA

“Thank you so much for the help we received through the Samaritan Ministries program. We received the full amount for our need. It works in a very caring way and we were overwhelmed at the checks that came, and the notes of encouragement with every check. I think Shanna went through the mail every evening looking for cards. It meant so much to her. Some people put in stickers and little things for our girls. Shanna is doing very well now. Thank you for your prayers.”

Giving to other Christians instead of insurance gives me joy

John and Margaret Grimm, Ogdensburg, NY

“In looking over the finances for the year, my husband remarked, after being told the amount we sent through Samaritan Ministries, ‘It gives me joy to hear you say we gave to other Christians instead of paying for insurance.’”

We appreciate how smoothly the process works

Samuel & Cheryl Cowles, Opal, SD

We appreciate how smoothly the entire process works. The thoughtful words that came with the checks were also a blessing. Then to receive notes of encouragement with our needs was wonderful, especially for our son who even received a gift of stickers and the letter addressed to him. What a delight to a young boy of 7 years. Thanks.