

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Deciphering Health Insurance for the Elderly

Hudson, MA, March 17, 2004 – Health insurance can be a daunting subject, but even more so for the elderly. Will Medicaid help pay for long-term nursing home care? Will it help pay for community services? Who qualifies for Medicaid? That's in addition to the usual questions about whether care for one's illness or injury is covered. Stress can be reduced if you know how to make sense of private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and supplemental insurance.

Theresa K. Quinn, RN BSN MS, will shed light on this difficult subject in the first in a series of free sessions on eldercare, to be held at the Unitarian Church of Marlborough & Hudson, 102 Church Street, Hudson, on Wednesday, March 17, from 7 to 9 p.m.

She will offer guidelines for those involved in making health care and health insurance decisions. Eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid will be discussed. And she will offer a discussion, with handouts, about access to a variety of community services and when and if these are covered by insurance. There will be opportunities for questions and answers followed by refreshments.

Ms. Quinn is a member of the Case Management Society and is a Case Manager at Marlborough Hospital. Her work has focused on medical/surgical, hospice and detox nursing, with particular regard to the needs of the elderly. She has recently completed her Master's degree in Health Care Management. Theresa is especially concerned about the fragmentation and depersonalization of modern health care.

The Next Step is a series of free Eldercare sessions sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Hudson and Marlborough. The five sessions will take place Wednesday evenings, March 17 through April 14, from 7 to 9 pm, in the church sanctuary. Upcoming topics include Basic Estate Planning, Caregiver Stress, Negotiating New Roles, and the Basics of Hospice Care Service. All are invited to attend as few or as many sessions as desired.

To get to the church, take Route 495 to exit 26 and go east towards Hudson. When you come to the rotary, take a left onto Main Street and go two blocks. Just after Hudson Town Hall, take a left onto Church Street and the church is immediately on the right.

For more information contact the UU Church at 978-562-9180 or uucmh@rcn.com.