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Contact: Katie Bauer
Communications
651-431-2911
Katie.Bauer@state.mn.us

Board will mark Medicare 50th anniversary at State Fair

The Minnesota Board on Aging and its flagship service, the Senior LinkAge Line[®]: a One Stop Shop for Minnesota Seniors, will again be part of the Minnesota State Fair this year. The board will host an informational booth in the southeast corner of the State Fair Education Building, located on Cosgrove Street north of Dan Patch Avenue.

The theme for this year's booth is Medicare's 50th Anniversary. Medicare was officially signed into law on July 30, 1965, and today provides coverage to more than 54 million people 65 and over and people with disabilities nationwide. In Minnesota, Medicare serves 905,779 people.

In addition to information on Medicare, the Board on Aging booth will provide information and consultation on such topics as aging in place, long-term care planning, preventing senior fraud and abuse and other topics of interest to older adults and their family members. Staff and members of the Board on Aging as well as staff and volunteers from Minnesota's Area Agencies on Aging and the Department of Human Services will be on hand to answer questions and connect seniors to the resources and help they need.

Own Your Future, the state's initiative to encourage individuals over 40 to begin planning for long-term care, will again be at the booth, providing information and surveying fairgoers about their plans for retirement and long-term care.

The Minnesota State Fair runs from Thursday, Aug. 27 through Labor Day, which falls on Sept. 7 this year. The State Fair Education Building is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily during the fair.

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Editor's note: Minnesota Human Services Commissioner Lucinda Jesson will visit with fairgoers and be available to speak with reporters from 3:30 to 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, at the MBA booth. The Minnesota Department of Human Services partners with the board on Own Your Future and other initiatives.