

POST-CRESCENT

APPLETON, WI

THURSDAY 53,658

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BadgerRx healthy for participants, taxpayers

Throughout northeastern Wisconsin, residents struggle to afford prescription drugs. Many are forced to choose between basic necessities, like food and shelter, and medicine. That's wrong.

Although current programs like BadgerCare and SeniorCare exist to help those seniors and families most in need of help, the high cost of prescription drugs affects many more.

Today, 1.1 million Wisconsinites lack prescription drug coverage. That means that one out of every six Wisconsin citizens are forced to pay for their medicine out of their own pocket. We can do better.

As of April 1, these people can enroll in BadgerRx. Under BadgerRx, those who are without health insurance or do not receive a prescription drug benefit are eligible. For a low annual fee of \$25 per individual or \$75 per family, enrollees can receive savings of 25 percent to 40 percent on their prescription purchases.

The best part about BadgerRx is that it doesn't cost one taxpayer dime. It works like a purchasing co-op. Enrollees pool together and, through greater buying power, take advantage of significant rebates.

Not only do residents stand to gain, but so do local pharmacists. Now, people have an incentive to purchase medicines from their local pharmacist and not online.

The only problem with BadgerRx is that not enough people are aware of it. It's important to spread the word that another opportunity to receive affordable medicine is available.

I urge everyone who is eligible for BadgerRx to apply today. If you would like to enroll, you can visit www.badgerxgold.com or call my office, toll free, at 1-888-534-0005.

**Rep. Tom Nelson,
D-Kaukauna**