
Ways to Pay for Home Care



**Cherished
Companions**
Home Care with Heart!

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| How to Pay for Home Care | 3 |
| Paying for Home Care | 4 |
| Available Payment Options | 6 |
| Resources | 9 |
| About Cherished Companions Homecare | 11 |



How to Pay For Home Care

Supporting your loved one's desire to continue their independence and remain at home is a priceless decision. When making this decision, it's good to care for them during this very stage of their life. Having confidently made this decision, will allow your loved one to live a long, happy and independent life feeling safe, secure and comfortable in their own surroundings. Also be reassured that making the decision to have in-home care may spare you some very costly results regarding your loved one's quality of life resulting from facility care.

It is important to remember that there are various payment options available that will allow you the opportunity to provide this higher quality of life that your loved one desires and deserves.

Paying for Home Care

When considering home care for your loved one, it is critical that you start by evaluating the idea of value. We can describe the value of something by its importance, usefulness or worth. The value of home care, can then be considered based on these qualities.

The importance of home care

Home care can be an important option for someone who is getting older, chronically ill, recovering from surgery, or disabled. Home care can allow your loved one to remain in the comfort of their home, enjoying their day-to-day activities while continuing their independence. A 2009 paper published in the Journal of the Academy of Life Underwriting Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of RGA Reinsurance Company, J. Carl Holowaty, MD, DBIM, found that transitioning into an institutional care facility can be the single most disruptive event to social engagement that a person could experience, even ranking higher than a spouse's death. (There is a significant relationship between death and degree of social engagement.)

The usefulness of home care

Strategic care has been found to reduce the number of hospital stays. With in-home care providers, are able to assist with medication reminders, fall prevention and overall monitoring of well-being in all the comfort and security of your loved one's home.

In a 1982 study for the National Academy of Sciences entitled "The Compression of Morbidity," James F. Fries discusses that the aging population will live longer with a higher quality of life due to improved lifestyles, nutrition, exercise, abstinence, and education. Unfortunately, once a person experiences a disease or injury that requires long term care, the result is most often a dramatic decrease of life expectancy. For example, the life expectancy of an individual who experiences a physical trauma or illness and moves into a long term care facility would see a life expectancy reduction of up to 50%–75%.

The worth of home care

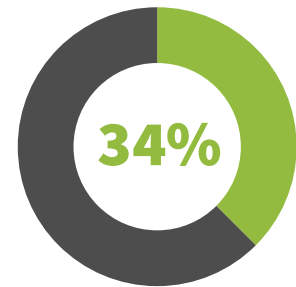
Home care is superior because of the one-on-one personalized care provided to an individual. Due to the close relationship and knowledge of their clients, a caregiver is able to be proactive in assisting their client with daily living activities to preserve their longevity. In long term nursing facilities, direct caregivers can be assigned to up to 15 clients at one time and these facilities will easily house hundreds of patients.

Why Home care is the smart option

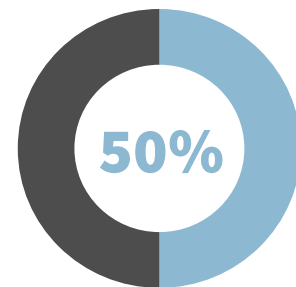
We have talked about how home care can be important, useful and have a lot of worth, but what about why it is the smart option?

According to the National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL), of those currently residing in an assisted living community, 34% will move to a skilled nursing facility due to deteriorating health and 30% will die. The death rate of individuals moving into a skilled nursing facility is death within the first 12 months may increase by as much as 50%-60%.

Based on statistics, a Skilled Nursing Home is unfortunately, a natural next step for those living in Assisted Living. At \$239 per day, a Skilled Nursing Home is not only a more expensive option than home care, but provides a poorer quality of life.



34% of seniors in an assisted living community will move to a skilled nursing facility.



The mortality rate of individuals moving into a skilled nursing facility within the first 12 months is **50-60%**.

Available Payment Options

Understanding the options you have to pay for home care is critical to making the best decision. A good agency can help you get connected with the right organizations. These agencies will also work with you to develop ways to provide service as affordably as possible. Creative solutions can sometimes include splitting shifts or sharing duties with family members to cut down costs while maintaining the quality of care.

Working closely with your care agency will allow you to have the peace of mind you need to confidently make the transition to in-home care. Knowing your loved one will be safe, supported, and surrounded by love in their very own home is undeniably incomparable to all other alternatives.

Self-payment options like long-term care insurance, reverse mortgages, and home care loans are available. In some rare cases, there may also be financial assistance options including Medicaid programs.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Veterans Benefits

The Veteran Aid and Attendance Pension offers benefits for veterans and their spouses who require regular care to assist in daily living with things like personal care and homemaking. To qualify, these requirements need to be identified and established by a [physician](#).

Medicaid Programs

Medicaid is a joint federal and state government program that helps people with low income and assets pay for some, or even all of their health care bills including long-term care services provided at home.

To be eligible for Medicaid he or she must meet certain requirements as determined by the client's resident state. Once they become eligible for Medicaid, the state will make an additional assessment of whether your loved one qualifies for long-term care services like [home care](#).



Tax Credits and Reductions

There are many state and federal programs that offer tax credits to help lower the tax burden. Fortunately, this also reduces the overall cost of home care. For more information, contact your tax or financial advisor.

As you research and plan your best payment method for home care, consider the following options that be able to assist.

Alzheimer's Respite Care

- [Alzheimer's Association](#)
- [Alzheimer's Foundation of America](#)

Elderly and Disabled Tax Credit

- [Efile.com](#)
- [taxhelp.org](#)

Federal Elderly Care Tax Credit

- [Paying for Senior Care](#)
- [aarp.org](#)

LIHEAP – Aid for Energy Costs

- [Office of Community Services](#)
- [California Department of Community Services and Development](#)

Medical Expense Tax Deductions

- [7 Rules for Deducting Medical and Dental Expenses - Forbes.com](#)

NFCSP Respite Care

- [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Administration for Community Living](#)
- [Elder Care Link](#)

State Elderly Care Tax Credit

- [Senior Living Residences](#)

Veterans Administration Respite Care

- [U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs](#)
- [Wounded Warriors Family Support](#)

SELF-PAYMENT

Long-Term Care Insurance

Most long-term care insurance policies today are comprehensive and allow qualified recipients to use the daily benefit for many services including home care, respite care, Alzheimer's special care, personal care and more. Many policies also cover some homemaker services like meal preparation or housekeeping in combination with the personal care services received.

Asset Conversion

Reverse home mortgages, home equity lines of credit, Rex Agreements, and Equity Key are all real estate-based asset conversion programs that are available to offer your loved one financial solutions for long-term home care needs.

Annuity Loan

An annuity holder can borrow money against the cash value of their annuity contract allowing your loved one access to their retirement funds without going through the hassle of cashing out the annuity. This type of loan can provide several benefits to those with an annuity.





Resources

It's always good to do your own research to get some insight into what financial plans are best for you.

For more information throughout your research process, visit these helpful resources:

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

The [National Association of Area Agencies on Aging](#) (n4a) is a 501c(3) membership association representing America's national network of 622 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and providing a voice in the nation's capital for the 256 Title VI Native American aging programs.

LongTermCare.gov

The [Administration for Community Living](#), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, brings together the efforts and achievements of the Administration on Aging, the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and the HHS Office on Disability. It serves as the federal agency responsible for increasing access to community supports, while focusing attention and resources on the unique needs of older Americans and people with disabilities across their lifespan.

Administration on Aging

The [Administration on Aging](#) (AOA) is the principal agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services designated to carry out the provisions of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA). The OAA promotes the wellbeing of older individuals by providing services and programs designed to help them live independently in their homes and communities. The Act also empowers the federal government to distribute funds to the states for supportive services for individuals over the age of 60.

Ohio Department of Aging

The [Ohio Department of Aging](#) is a cabinet-level state agency that administers services and supports for older adults, their caregivers, and their families. The department's ultimate goal is to place Ohio on the leading edge of innovation and responsiveness to the growing and changing older population.

Ohio Home Care Program

The [Ohio Department of Medicaid](#) (ODM) administers the Ohio Home Care Program (OhioHCP) through the Bureau of Long Term Care Services and Supports.

Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice

The [Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice](#) (OCHCH) is a statewide trade association that represents the interests of home health care and hospice agencies in Ohio. OCHCH is a unique and indispensable resource that serves as the voice of home care and hospice in Ohio, advocating on behalf of the industry and the patients and families we serve.



About Cherished Companions Home Care

Cherished Companions Home Care was founded by Douglas Wilber to meet the growing need for care in our community. During his 21 years in the Health Care and Pharmaceutical Division of Procter and Gamble, Doug developed a special understanding of the needs of medical patients, particularly seniors. Having experienced the effects of aging in his own family, he decided to apply his unique knowledge and concern professionally, in order to help those in need of non-medical care at home. Doug's goal was to create a company that provides unsurpassed compassionate care at an outstanding value, thus allowing more people to enjoy independence in the comfort of home. Cherishing people, and their need for independence, is at the very heart of Cherished Companions.