

ASSISTED LIVING

IN RHODE ISLAND

WHAT IS ASSISTED LIVING?

Assisted living residences are a special combination of housing, meals, and personal assistance designed to meet the needs of those who require support with activities of daily living. Assisted living is a residential option that promotes self-direction and participation in decisions regarding care and services. Its philosophy is to support choice, individuality, privacy, independence, and boost quality of life.



SERVICES IN ASSISTED LIVING

Services that are common in assisted living include, housekeeping, three meals a day, assistance with bathing, dressing, grooming, 24 hour security and staff availability, health promotion and exercise programs, medication management, personal laundry services, social and recreational activities, emergency call systems, supervision and direction, and transportation.



LEVELS OF ASSISTED LIVING

Assisted Living: Unlike a nursing home, an assisted living community is not a skilled nursing facility. The basic level of assisted living is designed to be the senior's home but a more secure and social environment that provide meals and services. Some communities around the state have skilled nursing facilities as an extension of the community to help make transitions during senior years simple and less stressful.

Memory Care: Many communities around the state may either have a memory care wing or are entirely memory care. These communities include all of the services provided in regular assisted living, but daily life is focused around the needs of residents with Alzheimer's or some form of dementia. Communities with memory care options also provide the comfort of smoothly transitioning while aging in place, should memory care become necessary.

Limited Health Services (LHS): Some communities around the state have acquired the limited health services (LHS) license. This allows the community to provide more nursing services by appropriately trained clinical staff. While hospice services are welcome at assisted living residences, communities with the LHS license can care for residents on hospice that become bed bound.

Medication Code: M1/M2

M1- The community is licensed to centrally store and/or administer medications.

M2- The community provides reminders and assistance to support self-administration.

Fire Code: F1/F2

F1- For residents NOT able to leave the building in an emergency without assistance.

F2- Residents are able to leave the building independently in an emergency.

CHOOSING A COMMUNITY

Do you qualify for assisted living?

Where would you like to live?

Will you need memory care services?

Will you need skilled nursing in the future?

With 63 communities around the state and in every county, the best option maybe be closer than you think.

To search for the right community visit www.riala.org

Resident's Rights

Making the decision to move to a senior living community, such as assisted living, is often an emotional one. Many seniors are reluctant because they believe making this choice means losing their independence. In reality, moving to an assisted living can help seniors not only maintain their independence, but allow them to live a more enriched life. Assisted living regulations ensure the rights of residents and the RI Department of Health and the Alliance for Better Long Term Care assure these rights are upheld.

Costs

Assisted living is almost entirely paid for by the individual. Medicare is not accepted as a means of payment. However, some residences do accept Medicaid, if the individual qualifies. Costs vary by residence, so review the disclosure statements and take a tour of all the communities that suit individual needs. For those who qualify, Veteran's Aid and Attendance benefit may be an option to help pay for assisted living. Supplemental Security Income and long term care insurance are also options to consider. Each community can help with these questions.

Disclosure Statement

Every residence is required to provide a disclosure statement early on in the search process to empower the individual's decision making by describing the residence's policies, costs, and services. These disclosure statements give potential residents and their family consistent categories of services and cost of services from which they can compare residences throughout the state.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rhode Island Assisted Living Association (RIALA)

www.riala.org (401) 435-8888



The Rhode Island Department of Health

The results of inspection and survey reports are available upon request.

www.health.ri.gov (401) 222-5960



For more information, visit us at www.riala.org and perform an advanced community search.