

## Assisted Living Evaluation

Finding the right place for yourself or a loved one doesn't need to be difficult. We offer this checklist of the most important items to evaluate the Centers you are considering.

### Atmosphere

- ✓ As you arrive at the residence, do you like its location and outward appearance?
- ✓ As you enter the lobby and tour, is the decor attractive and homelike?
- ✓ Do you receive a warm greeting from staff welcoming you to the residence?
- ✓ Does the administrator/staff call residents by name and interact warmly with them as you tour?
- ✓ Do residents socialize with each other and appear happy and comfortable?
- ✓ Are you able to talk with residents about how they like the center and staff?
- ✓ Do the residents seem to be appropriate housemates for you or your loved one?
- ✓ Are staff members appropriately dressed, personable, and outgoing?
- ✓ Do the staff members treat each other in a professional manner?
- ✓ Are the staff members that you pass during your tour friendly to you?
- ✓ Are visits with the resident welcome at any time?

### Physical Features

- ✓ Is the community well-designed for your needs?
- ✓ Is the floor plan easy to follow?
- ✓ Are doorways, hallways, and rooms accommodating to wheelchairs and walkers?
- ✓ Are elevators available for those unable to use stairways?
- ✓ Are handrails available to aid in walking?
- ✓ Are cupboards and shelves easy to reach?
- ✓ Are floors made of a non-skid material and carpets firm to ease walking?
- ✓ Does the residence have good natural and artificial lighting?
- ✓ Is the residence clean, free of odors, and appropriately heated/cooled?
- ✓ Does the residence have sprinklers and clearly marked exits?

*(continued on reverse)*



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## **Needs Assessments, Contracts, Costs & Finances**

- ✓ Is a contractual agreement available that discloses healthcare and supportive services, all fees, as well as admission and discharge provisions? What are the policies for refunds and transfers?
- ✓ Is there a written plan for the care of each resident?
- ✓ Does the center have a process for assessing a potential resident's need for services and are those needs addressed periodically?
- ✓ Does this process include the resident, his or her family/representative, along with the potential resident's physician?
- ✓ Does the center validate care so long-term care insurance, if held, can be reimbursed to the resident?

## **Services**

- ✓ To what extent are medical services available, and how are these services provided?
- ✓ Is staff available to meet scheduled and unscheduled needs?
- ✓ Can the center provide a list of services available?
- ✓ Is staff available to provide routine assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs) if needed? ADLs include dressing, eating, mobility, hygiene and grooming, bathing, toileting, using the telephone, shopping, and laundry.
- ✓ Does the residence provide housekeeping services in residents' units?
- ✓ Can residents arrange for transportation on fairly short notice?
- ✓ Are pharmacy, barber/beautician, and/or physical therapy services offered on-site?



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