

Madison House Assisted Living Residence Frequently Asked Questions

What is assisted living?

Assisted living is very different from a nursing home. Residents are able to participate in planning their daily activities according to their own interests and needs. Although they may need some assistance with dressing, bathing or other personal activities, they retain their dignity and independence. Resident centered plans of care are built on strengths and clearly identify how and when assistance is needed. Assisted living residences are licensed by the State Health Department and receive regular assessments of levels of safety, care and services.

What is included in the rent payment?

Basic support services include 24-hour staff oversight and emergency response, home-cooked meals, snacks, housekeeping, laundry and activity programming. Medication administration, reminders for meals and activities, and assistance with dressing, grooming and showers is provided according to individual need. Residents must be independently mobile. Please see the Consumer Information Sheet for more details.

How much is the rent?

Effective August 1, 2010, the base rate for room, board and services for a small private room is \$2,650/month, for a large private room \$2,825/month and for a companion room \$2,450/month. Additional levels of service may be available for additional fees. We accept Private Pay and Medicaid Approved Waivers. If you qualify for a Medicaid Waiver your rent is determined by your income. See the *Rate Sheet* and the *Guide to Get Help from Medicaid to Pay for Assisted Living* for details.

Does Medicare pay for assisted living?

No, Medicare does not pay for assisted living services. Assisted living is most often paid for privately by the resident or family or is supplemented by the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Program through Medicaid – with residents being responsible for a monthly room and board payment. Medicaid is a state program for those residents who qualify both financially and functionally. Long term care policies are becoming more common and in some cases help pay for assisted living. See the *Guide to Get Help from Medicaid to Pay for Assisted Living* located on the Senior Housing Options website under the resource center tab for more information.

Is Veteran's Assistance available?

Veteran's Assistance may be available for veterans and their spouses living in an assisted living community. To qualify, a resident must have been honorably discharged and served 90 days on active duty with at least one of those days served during wartime. Call the Veterans Hotline at 1-800-252-8387, or look under the Resource Center tab of our website - under Resources for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities for more information on VA benefits.

What kinds of additional services are offered?

For your convenience, additional support services may be provided in our community by external service providers. These might include foot care, home health nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and hospice services. The resident and resident's physician determine which services are appropriate, and whether resources are available to pay for them. External service providers work as needed in cooperation with assisted living staff according to the care plan developed for each individual.

What types of accommodations do you have?

We have semi-private, small private and large private rooms. All rooms have private bathrooms. Most have doors leading to outside patios. There are free cable hook-ups in each room. Residents may have their own phones with private lines. Common areas are available for socialization, activities, and visiting with family and friends.

How do I have my phone installed?

Call Qwest (800-244-1111) and tell them your room number. If your home number is a Cortez number, Qwest can transfer that number here.

How many residents do you have?

We have 28 residents. That number may vary, depending upon how many share rooms, or if we have any vacancies.

What types of activities do you offer?

We have daily exercise class, bingo, Bible class, reminiscence discussions, crafts, movies, picnics, outings, music programs, drawing, painting, gardening, walking, singing, karaoke, games - including Wii, special events, and anything else that anyone wants to do! We have an active monthly Resident Council meeting and ideas and suggestions for recreational programming are encouraged. Regular bus outings are scheduled into the community.

Are any of my expenses tax deductible?

Some or all of your personal care expenses or assisted living expenses may be tax deductible as medical expenses if you and/or your family meet certain criteria. For more information, see IRS publication 502 available at www.irs.gov or by calling 1-800-829-3676.

Can I get help with medication administration?

Qualified Medication Administration Personnel (QMAPs) may administer or assist the resident in administration of medication according to the care plan and doctor's orders. All QMAP staff has been qualified through the Colorado Health Department-approved training program prior to providing medication assistance. QMAPs are not nurses and some restrictions apply to their scope of practice. They are not allowed to administer injections, for instance. We have an electronic medication system to help reduce med errors and increase the safety of administration.

May I bring my own furniture?

Certainly! Depending on the size of your room, you may decorate it with your own furniture and pictures. We have twin beds, bedside tables and dressers available if you wish to use them.

May I come and go as I please?

Yes. All we ask is that you let us know by signing out when you leave the building and give us an idea of where you are going and when you will be back.

When are mealtimes?

Breakfast is served in the dining room from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Lunch is at noon, and supper is at 5 p.m. Snacks are at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. and you can ask for snacks in the evening, or whenever you're hungry, twenty-four hours a day!

May I have guests for meals?

Yes, family and friends are welcome to join you, because this is your home and inviting family to dinner is one of life's enduring pleasures. Donations are accepted in the office.

Do you have a beauty shop?

Yes, Annette is here twice a week to shampoo, cut, style and perm your hair for a very reasonable price.

Do you provide transportation?

We will arrange transportation when needed. Montezuma County has a wonderful senior bus service. We have a spacious, wheelchair-accessible van for outings.

Do you accept pets?

We do accept pets, service and companion animals. The resident must be capable of caring for the animal. Arrangements must be made with the administrator, and a pet deposit may be required. Animals must have current vaccinations on file.

Can I smoke?

We have two designated smoking areas outside the building. There is no smoking allowed anywhere in the building.

What are the house rules?

House rules have been established for the mutual benefit of everyone in the community and address such issues as smoking, cooking, protection of valuables, visitors, dress and consumption of alcohol. As a resident, you must follow these rules or you may be subject to involuntary discharge.

Probably the *most* frequently asked question:**What criteria is used to determine a prospective resident's eligibility?**

Because we are *not* a nursing home, a certain level of independence is necessary. You must be able to move around independently, whether with a cane, walker or wheelchair. If incontinent, you must be able to manage your incontinence products.

Of course, every person is different, and we evaluate everyone individually. We realize how much people value their independence. Residents will receive assistance and care that allows them to retain a sense of independence and a lifestyle that is uniquely their own. Please see the Consumer Information Statement for more details.