

Plan Ahead When Considering Low Income Assisted Living

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Seniors Housing Options

This year, *National Assisted Living Week* (September 7-13) celebrates the theme *Filling Life with Love*. This focus reflects the daily involvement of caregivers, family members, and volunteers who together build a high quality of care and quality of life for residents in assisted living. This care takes place throughout the county, to residents regardless of income, who need just a little more help with their daily lives.

As we celebrate our assisted living residences this week, seniors are being crunched by the current economy. As the mortgage crisis and cost of gas, food, healthcare and utilities strain fixed incomes, the AARP reports that bankruptcy applications by those 55 and up comprise a quarter of all U.S. filings. These facts, combined with the existing growth in senior numbers, makes it more likely that they will be the largest need yet for assisted living residences targeted to low income seniors.

If they haven't started yet, this September makes for a nice time for seniors and their loved ones to begin to think about how to conduct a search for a low income assisted living property. Though it may seem that there's time left, it's better to plan ahead than to make a decision in a crisis.

Low income assisted living residences can have lengthy wait-lists. If you don't leave enough time in your search, you may feel you have to settle for something other than what you're looking for. In addition, potential residents should take time to understand the paperwork and enrollment process for receiving any benefits they are eligible for.

The task can be daunting, but beginning early leaves plenty of time to start easily. First steps can be as simple as noticing which assisted living residences are in the area that you would like to live. Possibly, listening a little more closely when a friend or other relative talks about their experiences with low income assisted living.

Despite inherent challenges, it is possible to find a low income assisted living residence that meets your needs. If you'd like more information and help, please call 303-595-4464 x 14.

strength compassion hope innovation expertise

I may be
retired,
but I'm anything
but retiring.

