



Checklist

FOR CHOOSING A SENIOR COMMUNITY

Name of Senior Community: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Date of visit: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

General Information

- Is the community faith-based? Not-for-profit?
- Is there a waiting list for the senior care community? If so, how long?
- What are the additional fees associated with living at the community?
(Deposit, monthly fees, additional occupant fee, pet fee, etc.)
- Is the atmosphere of the community home-like and pleasing to you?
- Is the temperature inside comfortable?
- When are guest visiting hours?

Location

- Is the location convenient for family and friends to visit?
- Are there shopping centers and entertainment nearby?
- Are we close to a hospital/medical offices?

Community and Safety

- Is the community clean and well maintained?
- Is there adequate parking, including handicap parking?
- Is the parking lot well lit at night?
- Is the entire community handicap accessible? (Include rooms and bath areas)
- Are there handrails in the hallways and/or elevators?
- Are the exits clearly marked and unobstructed?
- Are optional floor plans available? What are the costs?
- What utility bills are included in the cost and what are residents responsible for?
- Are there smoke alarms and sprinkler systems throughout the community?
- Are pets allowed in the community and are there outdoor pet areas?
- Are the apartments furnished or unfurnished?
- Are residents allowed to decorate their apartments as they like?



Personal Care & Assistance

- Does Assisted Living have 24/7 LVN care? Does Skilled Nursing have 24/7 RN care?
- Is there a coordinator available if extra help is needed?(i.e. home care, therapy)
- Is personal assistance available, like bathing or medication management?
- Will I be informed if I require a higher level of care like assisted living/nursing care?
- Are housekeeping and/or laundry services included in the monthly fee?
- Are residents regularly checked on by a doctor/nurse?
- Are family members updated on resident's condition?

Program Services

- Is there a monthly calendar posted of all community activities?
- Is transportation available for shopping, appointments and other errands?
- Is physical and mental fitness part of the calendar?
- Are there designated areas for craft groups and games?
- Are there resident groups and/or organizations?
- Are there scheduled outings to entertainment complexes and community events?
- Are there outdoor spaces for walking, gardening, etc?

Dining Services

- Are the dining room and kitchen clean and well maintained?
- Are the tables and chairs clean?
- How many meals are included in the monthly fee?
- What are the costs for additional meals?
- Can the community accommodate special dietary needs?
- Is a licensed dietitian involved in menu planning?
- Are there set hours for meals?
- Are snacks and beverages available at other times?

About Current Residents

During your tour, introduce yourself to residents and ask/notice:

- How long have you lived here and how do you like it?
- What do you like and do not like about the community?
- Do the residents seem clean and cared for?
- Do the residents seem friendly and welcoming?
- Do the residents seem content and relaxed while dining?

Alzheimer's and Dementia Care

- Are doors locked and a system in place in case a resident wanders off?
- Is there a secure outdoor area for residents to use?
- Is there excessive overhead paging and excessive noise from the staff?
- Does the activities calendar offer consistent, planned activities?
- Do the activities make residents feel busy and productive?
- Is there assigned seating during meals for residents?
- How are nutritional needs monitored?
- How are staff screened for their experience with Alzheimer's/dementia residents?
- Is staff interaction with residents positive and respectful?