Maryland Assisted Living Program

Uniform Disclosure Statement

What is the Purpose of the Disclosure Statement?

The purpose of the Disclosure Statement is to empower consumers by describing an assisted living program's policies and services in a uniform manner. This format gives prospective residents and their families consistent categories of information from which they can compare programs and services.[1]

It is important to note that the Disclosure Statement is not intended to take the place of visiting the program, talking with residents, or meeting one-on-one with staff. Nor is the statement a binding contract or substitute for the Resident Agreement. Rather, it serves as additional information for making an informed decision about the services provided in each program.

If you have any questions about any issue raised in the Disclosure Statement or in the Resident Agreement provided by an assisted living program, please seek clarification from that program's manager or administrator.

What is Assisted Living?

Assisted living is a way to provide care to people who are having difficulty living independently. Assisted living providers furnish a place to live, meals, and assistance with daily activities such as dressing, bathing, eating, and managing medications. Assisted living programs also tend to have a less institutional look than nursing homes. However, these facilities are not as highly regulated by the State as nursing homes. There are a wide variety of assisted living programs in Maryland. They range from large, corporate-managed facilities where hundreds of people live in their own apartments to small, private homes.

Assisted living programs may differ in many ways including, but not limited to: size, staff qualifications, services offered, location, fees, sponsorship, whether they are freestanding or part of a continuum of care, participation in the Medicaid Waiver, ability to age in place, and visiting hours. Therefore, consumers should try to have a general idea of what type of setting, services, and price range they may want before contacting an assisted living program, as well as having questions prepared to ask the program manager or administrator. Consumers may find the Maryland Department of Aging's publication entitled, "Assisted Living in Maryland: What You Need to Know," helpful when they are contemplating assisted living. The publication may be downloaded from the Department of Aging's Web site. (https://aging.maryland.gov/documents/ALGuide.pdf)

In addition, the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) encourages consumers to verify the licensure status of any assisted living program that they are considering. A list of licensed assisted living programs is available online. (https://health.maryland.gov/ohcq/Pages/Licensee-Directory.aspx)

Where can I find the Assisted Living Licensure Standards?

The Assisted Living Licensure Standards are found in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.07.14, available at public libraries, or online at http://www.dsd.state.md.us/Publications.html. A copy of the most recent survey report of an assisted living program may be obtained from the program's manager or administrator.

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[1] Assisted Living providers are not <u>required</u> to provide all of the services listed in the Disclosure Statement—regulatory requirements may be found in COMAR 10.07.14.

1) Assisted Living Program Contact Information:

Facility Name Bestcare Assisted Living		
License No. 03A10963-H	No. of Licensed Beds 15	Level of Care at which Facility is Licensed I, II, III
Address (Street, City, State, Zip) 639 Main Street, Reisterstown, MD 21136		
Phone Number 410-596-5863	Fax Number 410-374-3367	
E-Mail Address (optional) bestcareadmin@comcast.net	Operator/Management Company Bestcare Assisted Living	
Manager Catherine Best, RN	Contact Information 410-596-5863	
Delegating Nurse Catherine Best, RN	Contact Information 410-596-5863	
Alternate Manager Mike Best	Contact Information 4100-259-8593	
Completed By Catherine Best, RN	Title RN/Owner	Date Completed 11/20/20

2) What sources of payment are accepted?

Assisted living programs differ in what types of sources they may accept for payment, e.g. private insurance, Medicaid, private pay, SSI/SSDI, etc. What sources of payment are accepted at this program?

Private Insurance, Private Pay, SALS, Medicaid Waiver

3) What are levels of care?

The levels of care correspond with how much assistance residents need. The level of care designation, therefore, reflects the complexity of the services required to meet the needs of a resident. The State of Maryland recognizes three levels of care, and they are as follows: Level 1 is low level of care required, Level 2 is moderate level of care required, and Level 3 is high level of care required.

A resident's level of care is determined by the Resident Assessment Tool, which collects essential information about a resident's physical, functional, and psychosocial strengths and deficits. There are two components to the assessment tool - a Health Care Practitioners Physical Assessment, to be completed or verified by a health care practitioner, and the Assisted Living Manager's Assessment, to be completed by the Assisted Living Manager or designee. A resident's score on the assessment tool determines his/her level of care (Level 1 = a total score of 0-20; Level 2 = a total score of 21-40; and Level 3 = a total score of 41 or higher).

Some assisted living programs may have elected to develop more than three levels of care. If an assisted living program has more than three levels of care, please describe the levels of care and how they correlate to the three levels of care recognized by the State. In addition, include program charges for each level of care.

Explanation: (You may attach materials as necessary) Level 1, 2, 3 - $3500, $4200, $4800 Hospite/Respite - No extra charge

4) What is a Resident Agreement?

The resident agreement is a legal contract, obligating a consumer to provide payment in return for services to be provided by the assisted living program. An assisted living program will provide a consumer with a Resident Agreement to review and sign prior to move-in. Prospective residents should feel free to request a copy of a sample resident agreement at any time.

The resident agreement is required by regulation to include, at a minimum, the information provided in COMAR 10.07.14.24(D) and 10.07.14.25(A), such as: the level of care the program is licensed to provide, a list of services provided by the program, an explanation of the program's complaint or grievance procedure; admission and discharge policies and procedures; obligations of the program and the resident or the resident's representative with regards to financial matters—handling resident finances, purchase or rental of essential or desired equipment; arranging or contracting for services not covered by the resident agreement; rate structure and payment provisions; identification of persons responsible for payment; notice provisions for rate increases; billing, payment, and credit polices; and terms governing the refund of any prepaid fees or charges in the event of a resident's discharge or termination of the resident agreement.

5) What Services are Provided?

Consumers should expect assisted living programs to provide clear information regarding services and fees. Some programs may charge fees for services based on the resident's assessed level of care, while others may provide an "a la carte" menu of services. Consumers should understand what is included in the base monthly rate, what services require an additional charge, circumstances under which fees may increase, and the refund policy. Below is a chart to help consumers better compare assisted living programs. This chart is not all-inclusive and providers may offer more or fewer services than listed below.

Offered		Service	Included in Base Rate for Level of Care (yes/no)	May be Purchased Separately. If so, please indicate cost.
Yes	No			
Nursing and Clinical Care:				
X	☐	24-Hour Awake Staff, Including Awake Overnight Staff	yes	
X	☐	Nursing Review Every 45 Days (Required by COMAR)	yes	
X	☐	On-site Licensed Nursing (__12_____ Hours/Week)	yes	
X	☐	Physician Services	no	Health Ins
X	☐	Bladder Incontinence Care	yes	
X	☐	Bowel Incontinence Care	yes	
X	☐	Catheter Care	yes	
X	☐	Consultant pharmacist medication review (required in some cases)	yes	
X	☐	Diabetes Care	yes	
X	☐	End of Life Care	yes	
X	☐	Home Health	yes	
X	☐	Hospice Care	yes	
X	☐	Incontinence Products	no	$20-$40/mo
X	☐	Infection Control Materials (e.g., gloves, masks, etc.)	yes	
X	☐	Nutritional Supplements	no	Health ins
X	☐	Service Plan and Frequency _____6 mos____(Required by COMAR at least every 6 months)	yes	
X	☐	Temporary use of wheelchair/walker	yes	

Offered		Service	Included in Base Rate for Level of Care (yes/no)	May be Purchased Separately. If so, please indicate cost.
Yes	No			
Personal Care:				
X	☐	Arrange/Coordinate Medical Appointments	yes	
X	☐	Assistance with bathing	yes	
X	☐	Assistance with dressing	yes	
☐	X	Assistance with handling money	no	N/A
X	☐	Assistance with incontinence	yes	
X	☐	Assistance with preparing meals	yes	
X	☐	Assistance with shopping for food or personal items	yes	
X	☐	Assistance with toileting	yes	
X	☐	Companion Services	no	N/A
X	☐	Housekeeping	yes	
X	☐	Mobility/Transfer Assistance	yes	
X	☐	Personal Care Items	yes	
Environment:				
X	☐	Activities program (__5__ days per week), specify programs or attach calendar.	yes	
X	☐	Alcohol Consumption	no	Per request
X	☐	Barber/Beauty Shop	no	$10-$15
X	☐	Cable TV	no	$25/mo for inroom dish
X	☐	Fire Sprinklers (__X__ in all areas or _____ in some areas), specify:	yes	
X	☐	Internet Access	yes	
X	☐	Linens/Towels	yes	
☐	X	Chair Glide System	yes	
X	☐	Dry Cleaning Services	no	varies
X	☐	Elevators	no	N/A
X	☐	Emergency Call System	yes	
X	☐	Emergency Generator	yes	
X	☐	Fire Alarm System	yes	
☐	X	Automatic Electronic Defibrillators (AEDs)	no	N/A
X	☐	Handrails	yes	
X	☐	Personal Laundry	yes	
X	☐	Personal Phone	no	Private pay
☐	X	Pets Allowed, specify:	no	N/A
X	☐	Ramps	yes	
X	☐	Security Services, specify: Alarmed doors and windows	yes	
☐	X	Smoking	no	N/A
X	☐	Secured Areas	yes	
X	☐	Sprinkler system	yes	
X	☐	Transportation, specify Company van / private escort	yes/no	$200/trip for pvt escort
X	☐	Visitation, specify hours and include the facility's policies and procedures 24x7 Open Visitation	yes	

Offered		Service	Included in Base Rate for Level of Care (yes/no)	May be Purchased Separately. If so, please indicate cost.
Yes	No			
Environment: (Continued)				
☒	☐	Volunteer Services, specify and include the facility's policies and procedures	yes	
☒	☐	Wander Guard or similar system, specify: Smart Caregiver	yes	
Dietary:				
☒	☐	Meals (___3___ per day & snacks) (COMAR requires a minimum of 3 meals per day & additional snacks)	yes	
☒	☐	Special Diets, specify: Low fat, low sodium, renal, mech sep	yes	
☒	☐	Family or Congregate Meals	yes	
Pharmaceuticals/Medications:				
☐	☒	Durable Medical Equipment, specify:	no	Health Ins.
☒	☐	Medication Administration	yes	
☒	☐	Medication Injections	yes	
☒	☐	Pharmaceuticals	no	Health Ins
☒	☐	Self Administration of Medications Permitted	yes	
☒	☐	Use of Outside Pharmacy Permitted	yes	
☒	☐	Use of Mail Order Pharmacy Permitted	yes	
Specialized Care or Services:				
☒	☐	Behavior Management: Verbal Aggression	yes	
☒	☐	Behavior Management: Physical Aggression	yes	
☒	☐	Dementia Care	yes	
☒	☐	Intravenous Therapy	yes	
☒	☐	Mental Health Supports and Services, specify:	no	Health Ins.
☒	☐	Ostomy Care	yes	
☒	☐	Oxygen Administration	yes	
☒	☐	Special Care Units, if there are additional charges for this type of care, please specify cost difference as well as how those services differ from the services provided in the rest of the program.	yes	
☒	☐	Services for persons who are blind	yes	
☐	☒	Staff who can sign for the deaf	no	N/A
☐	☒	Bilingual Services	no	N/A
☒	☐	Tube Feeding	yes	
☒	☐	Wound Care	yes	

Are the resident, resident's representative, or family members involved in the service planning process? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Explanation: (optional)

Resident, family, RN, and manager work together for service plan

Is the service plan reviewed with the resident, resident's representative, or family members? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Explanation: (optional)

Who assists with or administers medications? (Check all which apply)
☒ Delegating Nurse/Registered Nurse ☒ Licensed Practical Nurse ☒ Medication Technician ☐ Other (specify):

6) What are the criteria for discharge or transfer?

The following is a list of situations that may necessitate the termination of the resident agreement and the transfer or discharge of a resident from an assisted living program. Consumers are encouraged to inquire about an assisted living program's policies and procedures in the event that a resident must relocate. This list is not all-inclusive and criteria will differ depending upon the assisted living program's ability to provide certain types of care. All transfers and discharges must comply with Maryland regulatory requirements, including notice requirements, and terms of the Resident Agreement.*

Criteria/Factor which may:	Cause (temporary) transfer	Cause (permanent) discharge	Require the use of external resources
Medical condition requiring care exceeding that of which the facility determines it can safely provide	☐	☐	☒
Unacceptable physical, verbal, or sexual behavior	☐	☐	☒
Medication stabilization	☐	☐	☐
Danger to self or others	☐	☐	☒
Inability to toilet	☐	☐	☐
Non-ambulatory	☐	☐	☐
Inability to eat/tube feeding	☐	☐	☐
Must be hand fed	☐	☐	☐
Inability to walk/bedfast	☐	☐	☐
Others:	☐	☐	☐
Mental health issues, specify:	☐	☐	☐
Mobility changes	☐	☐	☐
Needs skilled nursing care	☐	☐	☒
Requires sitters	☐	☐	☒
Medication injections	☐	☐	☐
Behavior management for verbal or physical aggression	☐	☐	☐
Bladder incontinence care	☐	☐	☐
Bowel incontinence care	☐	☐	☐
Intravenous (IV) therapy	☐	☐	☒
Level of care change	☐	☐	☐
Moderate or advanced dementia, specify:	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐

 *Under Maryland Regulations an assisted living program may not provide services to an individual who at the time of initial admission, as established by the initial assessment, requires: (1) More than intermittent nursing care; (2) Treatment of stage three or stage four skin ulcers; (3) Ventilator services; (4) Skilled monitoring, testing, and aggressive adjustment of medications and treatments where there is the presence of, or risk for, a fluctuating acute condition; (5) Monitoring of a chronic medical condition that is not controllable through readily available medications and treatments; or (6)Treatment for a disease or condition which requires more than contact isolation. Exceptions to the conditions listed above are provided for individuals who are under the care of a licensed general hospice program.

Who makes the resident discharge or transfer decision?

☐ Assisted Living Manager
☐ Delegating Nurse
☒ Registered Nurse
☐ Other (specify)_____

Do families have input into the discharge or transfer decision?   ☒ Yes   ☐ No

Is there an avenue to appeal the discharge or transfer decision?   ☒ Yes   ☐ No

Explanation: (optional)

Does the assisted living program assist families in making discharge or transfer plans?   ☒ Yes   ☐ No

Explanation: (optional)

7) What are the requirements for staff training?

COMAR requires that assisted living programs provide initial and annual training for the alternate manager and staff in: (a) fire and life safety, including the use of fire extinguishers; (b) infection control, including standard precautions, contact precautions, and hand hygiene; (c) basic food safety; (d) emergency disaster plans; (e) basic first aid by a certified first aid instructor; and (f) cognitive impairment and mental illness training. Staff must have training or experience in: (a) the health and psychosocial needs of the population being served; (b) the resident assessment process; (c) the use of service plans; and (d) resident rights. A sufficient number of staff must also have initial and ongoing training in CPR training from a certified instructor. Consumers are encouraged to talk to the assisted living program manager about sources of staff training and their qualifications.

COMAR requires that assisted living program managers have sufficient skills, training, and experience to serve the residents in a manner that is consistent with the philosophy of assisted living. Managers must have verifiable knowledge in: (a) the health and psychosocial needs of the population being served; (b) the resident assessment process; (c) use of service plans; (d) cuing, coaching, and monitoring residents who self-administer medications with or without assistance; (e) providing assistance with ambulation, personal hygiene, dressing, toileting, and feeding; and (f) resident rights. Managers must receive initial and annual training in: (a) fire and life safety; (b) infection control, including standard precautions; (c) emergency disaster plans; and (d) basic food safety. Managers are required to have initial certification and recertification in: (a) basic first aid by a certified first aid instructor; and (b) basic CPR by a certified CPR instructor.

 COMAR requires that assisted living program managers of programs licensed for five beds or more have completed an 80-hour manager's training course. Some managers are exempt from this requirement.

Some assisted living programs may elect to require training for staff, managers, and alternate managers beyond these requirements.
Additional training provided: Cert. Nurse Assistant, Med.Tech, Alzheimer/Mental Illness/Dementia Training, Random drug test

8) What is the assisted living program's staffing pattern?

COMAR requires assisted living programs to develop a staffing plan that includes on-site staff sufficient in number and qualifications to meet the 24-hour scheduled and unscheduled needs of the residents. The delegating nurse, based on the needs of a resident, may issue a nursing order for on-site nursing.

SHIFTS (Enter the hours of each of your facility's shifts)	NUMBER OF STAFF PER SHIFT PER DAY							
	RN	LPN	CNA	Medication Tech.	Activity Workers	Non-Licensed Assistive Personnel	Other Workers	Awake Overnight
7:30A-7:30P				2	1			
7:30P-7:30A				1				

If staff do not work on a per-day basis, indicate the onsite hours per month.

RN	LPN	Physician	Social Worker	Pharmacist
50 hours / month	1-50 per month	As needed	5 per month	N/A

Explanation:

8 Weeks podiatrist visit to facility. Every month house Doctor Visit. Social Worker Depends on diagnosis, Visits can be weekly or Bi-weekly. PT operates on site weekly as needed

9) How do I file a complaint?

Under Maryland regulations, assisted living programs are required to have an internal complaint or grievance procedure. An explanation of the assisted living program's internal complaint or grievance procedure must be included in the resident agreement. Consumers should review this information and make sure that they understand how the internal complaint or grievance procedure operates. Consumers should direct any questions about the internal procedure to the assisted living program's manager or administrator.

Consumers may also report concerns or file a complaint regarding an assisted living program to the Office of Health Care Quality. Complaints may be registered over the phone or through the OHCQ Web site. Complaints may be anonymous. For more information regarding filing a complaint, please visit the Office of Health Care Quality's Web site at https://health.maryland.gov/ohcq/Pages/Complaints.aspx or call (410) 402-8217 or 1-877-402-8218.

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