

CRIMSON VILLAGE

THE TIDES

at Crimson Village

Specialty Care Assisted Living

A Senior Living Community

Assisted Living and Memory Care Facility

1410 18th Avenue East | Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 Schedule a tour today! **205-632-6699** | crimsonvillage.com



Tuscaloosa's newest state of the art assisted living facility is centrally located, competitively priced, affordable, local physician owned and operated.

We are passionately committed to providing quality care in a personalized fashion. Crimson Village is also home to The Tides, a 32 bed specifically for our loved ones with

 We offer meaningful daily activities, weekly outings, and a variety of therapy and games to stimulate cognition.







On the Cover



F or many years, counselors at the Area Agency on Aging of West Alabama have provided invaluable assistance to members of my family in choosing the best Medicare Part D prescription plan for the upcoming year. This free counseling, available through the State Health Insurance and Assistance Program (SHIP) for West Alabama, is only one of many programs for seniors administered by the Area Agency on Aging. Because there are often various Medicare insurance options, the process of understanding, analyzing and choosing the most beneficial plan can be challenging. I am so thankful for the knowledgeable, caring and friendly counselors at the Area Agency on Aging who help my family members with this important decision each year!"

-Pat Moore

(Photographed in downtown Northport with her husband, John)

From Our Director

Hello,

Welcome to our latest edition of the West Alabama Senior Resource Directory. This comprehensive directory is designed to assist older adults, individuals with disabilities, their families and caregivers as they search for programs and services available throughout the West Alabama area. As you use our directory, I hope that you will become more familiar with the Area Agency on Aging as well as the advertisers who helped make this publication possible. A listing and description of our Agency programs is on page 26. We are thankful for the support from our advertisers as well as the West Alabama community. For more than 40 years, our agency has provided home and community based services to thousands of older persons in our region. Our mission is to promote the independence, dignity and quality of life for older individuals, those with disabilities and their family caregivers.



Pamela R. McDaniel Area Agency on Aging Director

To learn more about any of the services we provide, always feel free to call our office at 205-333-2990, 1-800-243-5463 or 1-800-432-5030 or visit our new website at www.westalabamaaging.org.

Sincerely,

Pamela R. McDaniel

Pamela R. M. Dain

Area Agency on Aging Director

Stay in Touch!

Join our e-mail list and stay up to date on the latest news, information and happenings for seniors and individuals with disabilities in our community! Send your name and e-mail address to: michelle.carter@westal.org



Find us on Facebook!

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This directory and its content are intended to provide an overview of resources available to seniors in West Alabama. It is not meant to provide an exhaustive list of all available resources. Likewise, the inclusion of any advertising, logos or contact information in this directory does not constitute an endorsement by the Area Agency on Aging of West Alabama (AAAWA) of the products, services or organizations advertised. Please contact the AAAWA with specific questions or for connections to services in the West Alabama area. For distribution, advertising or listing information, contact Michelle Carter at michelle.carter@westal.org or 205-333-2990 ext. 202. This resource directory is published every two years and is distributed free to seniors in West Alabama.

West Alabama Regional Commission's Area Agency on Aging

West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC) houses the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) serving Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens and Tuscaloosa counties. To make a referral for any AAA program or for more information, call 205-333-2990 or 1-800-432-5030 or visit our new website at www.westalabamaaging.org. If you live outside our coverage area, call 1-800-AGELINE to locate your nearest Area Agency on Aging (see page 5). WARC's physical address is 4200 Hwy. 69 N., Northport, AL 35473 and the mailing address is P.O. Box 509, Northport, AL 35476.



The Older Americans Act of 1965 laid the foundation for the development of services that make it easier for older persons to live independently in their own homes and communities. The act established a national aging network designed to respond to the needs of older adults. Through amendments to the act in 1973, states were required to establish Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to coordinate federal and state programs at the local level. Since that time, the network has grown to include the U.S. Administration on Aging, State Units on Aging, and more than 650 Area Agencies on Aging throughout the United States.

An Area Agency on Aging is a public or private non-profit agency designated by the State to carry out the Older Americans Act at the local level. Like its counterpart at the State level, an Area Agency on Aging serves as both the advocate and visible focal point in its planning and service area to promote the development of more comprehensive and coordinated service systems to serve older individuals and disabled persons.

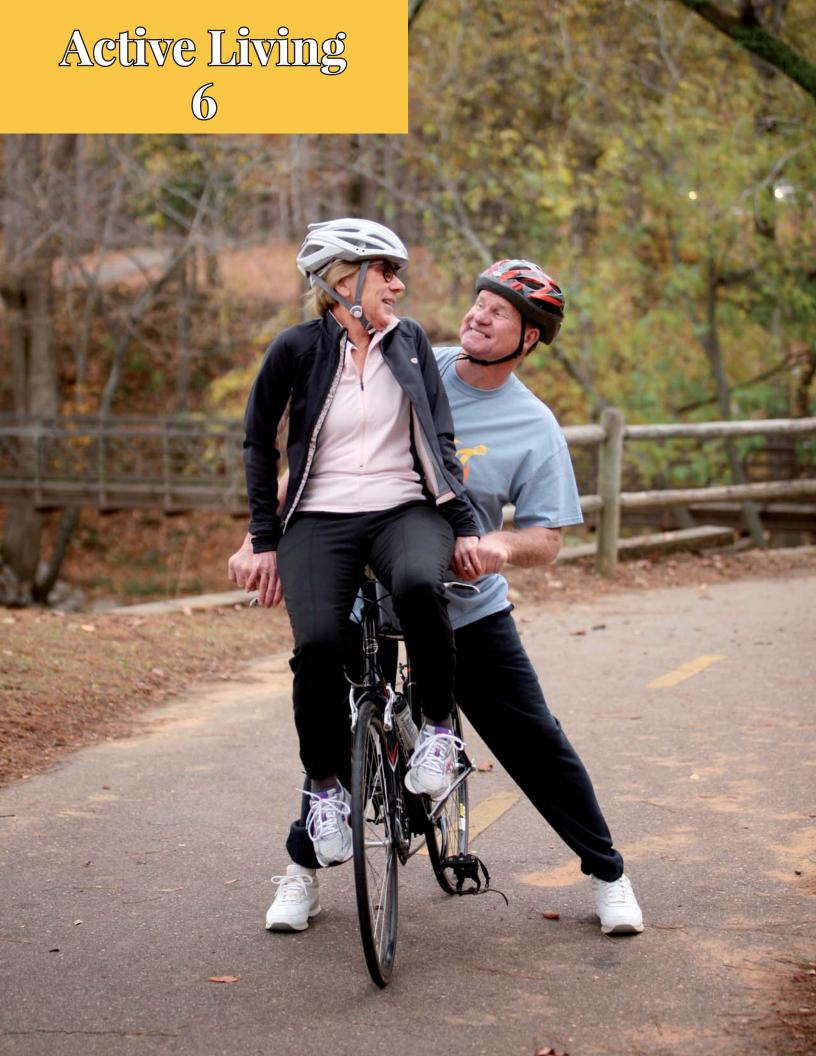
Staff of the Area Agency on Aging are available to assist seniors and/or disabled individuals and their families in coordinating resources and services that will enable the client to maintain their independence as long as possible. Through direct services and contracts with various service providing agencies throughout the region, the Area Agency on Aging provides numerous programs and services designed to meet the needs of older West Alabamians and disabled individuals.

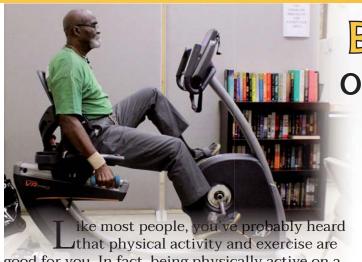
Alabama's Area Agencies on Aging 1-800-AGELINE

- 1. Mr. Jeff Thompson, AAA Director NW AL Council of Local Governments 256-389-0500 / 800-838-5845 Counties: Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Marion, Winston www.nacolg.org
- 2. Ms. Pam McDaniel, AAA Director
 West Alabama Regional Commission
 205-333-2990 / 800-432-5030
 Counties: Bibb, Fayette, Hale, Greene,
 Lamar, Pickens, Tuscaloosa
 www.westalabamaaging.org
- 3. Ms. Carolyn Fortner, Executive Director Middle Alabama AAA 205-670-5770 / 866-570-2998 Counties: Blount, Chilton, Shelby, St. Clair, Walker www.m4a.org
- 3A. Ms. Helen Anderson, AAA Director
 United Way's AAA of Jefferson County
 800-243-5463
 Counties: Jefferson
 www.uwca.org
- 4. Ms. Lori Corley, AAA Director
 East AL Regional Planning & Development
 Commission
 256-237-6741 / 800-239-6741
 Counties: Calhoun, Chambers,
 Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa,
 Etowah, Randolph, Talladega,
 Tallapoosa
 www.earpdc.org
- 5. Ms. Sharon Redd, AAA Director SC AL Development Commission 334-244-6903 Counties: Bullock, Butler, Crenshaw, Lowndes, Macon, Pike www.scadc.net
- 6. Ms. Delia Brand, AAA Director
 Alabama Tombigbee Regional Commission
 334-682-5206 / 888-617-0500
 Counties: Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh,
 Dallas, Marengo, Monroe, Perry,
 Sumter, Washington, Wilcox
 www.atrcregion6.com

- 7. Ms. Dana Eidson, Executive Director Southern AL Regional Council on Aging 334-793-6843 / 800-239-3507 Counties: Barbour, Coffee, Covington, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston www.sarcoa.org
- 8. Ms. Julie McGee, AAA Director
 South AL Regional Planning Commission
 251-433-6541
 Counties: Baldwin, Escambia, Mobile
 www.agingsouthalabama.org
- 9. Ms. Susan Segrest, Exec. Director Central Alabama Aging Consortium 334-240-4680 / 800-242-5463 Counties: Autauga, Elmore, Montgomery www.centralalabamaaging.org
- 10. Ms. Jackie Pinkard, AAA Director Lee-Russell Council of Governments 334-749-5264 / 800-239-4444 Counties: Lee, Russell www.lrcog.com
- 11. Ms. Heather Belz, AAA Director
 NC AL Regional Council of Governments
 256-355-4515
 Counties: Cullman, Lawrence, Morgan
 www.narcog.org
- 12. Renee Breland, AAA Director
 Top of AL Regional Council of Governments
 256-830-0818
 Counties: DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone,
 Madison, Marshall
 www.tarcog.us







good for you. In fact, being physically active on a regular basis is one of the healthiest things you can do for yourself. Studies have shown that exercise provides many health benefits and that older adults can gain a lot by staying physically active. Even moderate exercise and physical activity can improve the health of people who are frail or who have diseases that accompany aging. Being physically active can also help you stay strong and fit enough to keep doing the things you like to do as you get older. Making exercise and physical activity a regular part of your life can improve your health and help you maintain your independence as you age.

BE AS ACTIVE AS POSSIBLE

Regular physical activity and exercise are important to the physical and mental health of almost everyone, including older adults. Staying physically active and exercising regularly can produce long-term health benefits and even improve health for some older people who already have diseases and disabilities. That's why health experts say that older adults should aim to be as active as possible.

BEING INACTIVE CAN BE RISKY

Although exercise and physical activity are among the healthiest things you can do for yourself, some older adults are reluctant to exercise. Some are afraid that exercise will be too hard or that physical activity will harm them. Others might think they have to join a gym or have special equipment. Yet, studies show that "taking it easy" is risky. For the most part, when older people lose their ability to do things on their own, it doesn't

BENEFITS OF EXERCISE

One of the healthiest things you can do

Information provided by The National Institute on Aging

happen just because they've aged. It's usually because they're not active. Lack of physical activity also can lead to more visits to the doctor, more hospitalizations, and more use of medicines for a variety of illnesses.

PREVENT OR DELAY DISEASE

Scientists have found that staying physically active and exercising regularly can help prevent or delay many diseases and disabilities. In some cases, exercise is an effective treatment for many chronic conditions. For example, studies show that people with arthritis, heart disease, or diabetes benefit from regular exercise. Exercise also helps people with high blood pressure, balance problems, or difficulty walking.

MANAGE STRESS, IMPROVE MOOD

Regular, moderate physical activity can help manage stress and improve your mood. And, being active on a regular basis may help reduce feelings of depression. Studies also suggest that exercise can improve or maintain some aspects of cognitive function, such as your ability to shift quickly between tasks, plan an activity, and ignore irrelevant information.

EXERCISE OR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY?

Some people may wonder what the difference is between physical activity and exercise. Physical activities are activities that get your body moving such as gardening, walking the dog and taking the stairs instead of the elevator. Exercise is a form of physical activity that is specifically planned, structured, and repetitive such as weight training, tai chi, or an aerobics class. Including both in your life will provide you with health benefits that can help you feel better and enjoy life more as you age.

Aging Program Contractors

Bibb County

City of Brent 22 First St. Brent, AL 35034 205-926-4643 www.cityofbrentalabama.com

Town of Woodstock

28513 Hwy. 5 Woodstock, AL 35188 205-938-9790 www.woodstockalabama.com

Fayette County

Fayette County Aging Program 125 2nd Ave. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-2666 www.fayetteal.org/departments/ senior-center

Greene County

Greene County Commission 400 Morrow Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3349

Hale County

City of Greensboro 1101 Main St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-8119

Moundville **Community Center** 39750 AL Hwy. 69 Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-6318

Town of Akron

207 1st Ave. S. Akron, AL 35441 205-372-3148

Lamar County

Lamar County Aging Program 145 Columbus Ave. NW Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-0222

Pickens County

Pickens County Resource Center 514 10th Ave. SE Reform, AL 35481 205-367-9382

Tuscaloosa County

Focus on Senior Citizens 3801 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-3133

Job Training

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) 4200 Hwy. 69 N Ste. 1 Northport, AL 35473 205-333-2990 or 1-800-432-5030 www.westalabamaaging.org

Shelton State Career Services Center

9500 Old Greensboro Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-391-2413 www.sheltonstate.edu

Shelton State Ready To Work

9500 Old Greensboro Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-391-2482 800-966-4987 www.sheltonstate.edu/ readytowork

Tuscaloosa Area Career Center

202 Skyland Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-759-2576 www.joblink.alabama.gov/ada/r

Tuscaloosa's One Place

870 Redmont Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-462-1000 www.tuscaloosaoneplace.org

Senior Activity Centers

Bibb County

Brent/Centreville Senior Center 10445 AL-5 Brent, AL 35034

205-926-3968

Lawley Senior Center

2971 Hwv. 36 Lawley, AL 36793 334-366-2414

Woodstock Senior Center

28513 Hwy. 5 Woodstock, AL 35188 205-938-7004



Fayette County

Belk Senior Center

7941 Hwy. 96 Belk, AL 35545 205-932-4751

Berry Senior Center

30 School Ave. Berry, AL 35546 205-689-4940

Fayette Senior Center

125 2nd Ave. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-2676

Greene County

Eutaw Senior Center

107 Harris Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-496-3169

Forkland Senior Center

13327 U.S. Hwy. 43 Forkland, AL 36740 334-287-0951

Hale County

Akron Senior Center

7018 1st Ave. N Akron, AL 35441 205-372-3378 Greensboro Senior Center (Located inside Canterbury Manor)

6400 Hwy. 14 E Greensboro, AL 36744 334-341-0104

Moundville Senior Center

39750 Hwy. 69 S Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-6318

Lamar County

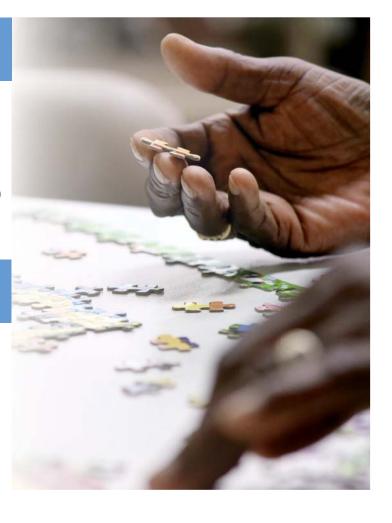
Kennedy Senior Center 112 Park St. Kennedy, AL 35574 205-596-4073

Who can participate in the Senior Activity Centers?

- ·Anyone who is 60 years or older
- ·Spouses of a participant, regardless of age
- ·Persons with a disability residing with an eligible participant
- ·Persons with a disability under the age of 60 residing in a living community where the senior activity center is located

Why go to your local Senior Activity Center?

- ·Daily fun activities
- ·Nutritious meals
- ·Socialization and recreation
- ·Building friendships and staying connected
- ·Volunteer opportunities
- ·Enjoyment
- ·Staying Informed
- ·Educational Programs



(Senior Centers Cont.)

Millport Senior Center 294 Old Kennedy Rd. Millport, AL 35576 205-662-3819

Sulligent Senior Center 211 Project St. Sulligent, AL 35586 205-698-9482

Vernon Senior Center 230 Strickland Cir. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7122

Pickens County

Aliceville Senior Center 416 3rd Ave. NE Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-8872

Carrollton Senior Center (Located inside Carrollton Methodist Church) 85 Tuscaloosa Ave.

Carrollton, AL 35447 205-463-2139





Gordo Senior Center 228 Main St. Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-7966

Reform Senior Center 213 7th Ave. SW Reform, AL 35481 205-375-2514

<u>Tuscaloosa County</u>

Clara Verner Senior Center (Located inside Clara Verner) 101 Old Hackberry Ln. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-1202

Focus/McAbee Senior Center (Located inside McAbee Center) 3801 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-3133

Southside Senior Center (Located inside McKenzie Court) 2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Education

Fifty-Five Alive (Safe Driving Classes) 205-554-1919

Literacy Council of West Alabama 3401 MLK Jr. Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-391-2612

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

www.literacywa.org

The University of Alabama 240 Paul W. Bryant Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-348-6482 www.training.ua.edu/olli

Shelton State Lifelong Learning Center 9500 Old Greensboro Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-391-2386 www.sheltonstate.edu

Shelton State PLUS Literacy Program

9500 Old Greensboro Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-391-2671 or 205-391-2211 www.sheltonstate.edu

University of Alabama LIFT Program

205-348-6679 lmckinne@culverhouse.ua.edu

Senior Groups & Organizations

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)

Alabama Chapter 201 Monroe St., Ste. 1880 Montgomery, AL 36104 866-542-8167 www.aarp.org

DCH Golden Years Senior Group

809 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7931

Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP) Tuscaloosa

Sponsoring Organization: The University of Alabama, Psychology Department 205-348-7802

West Alabama Gerontological Association

P.O. Box 509 Northport, AL 35476 205-333-2990 1-800-243-5463 www.westalabamaaging.org

Volunteer Opportunities

American Red Cross

1622 Lurleen Wallace Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-758-3608 www.alredcross.org

Caring Days Adult Day Care

943 31st St. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-752-6840 www.caringdays.org

Community Soup Bowl

1711 23rd Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35403 205-752-2421 tuscaloosasoupbowl.com

DCH Regional Medical Center

809 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7174 www.dchsystem.com

Foster Grandparents Program

Focus on Senior Citizens (FOCUS) 1300 James I Harrison Jr. Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-554-1916 www.focusonseniorcitizens.org

Good Samaritan Clinic

3880 Watermelon Rd., Ste. A Northport, AL 35473 205-343-2212 www.gscclinic.org

Habitat for Humanity Program

1120 35th St., Ste. B Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-4629 www.habitattuscaloosa.org

Hospice of West Alabama

3851 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-523-0101 www.hospiceofwestalabama.com

Love, Inc.

3101 Main Ave. Ste. A Northport, AL 35476 205-523-8494 www.loveinctuscaloosa.com



12 | Active Living

RSVP - Tuscaloosa & Hale Counties

Focus on Senior Citizens 3801 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-3133

Salvation Army

2902 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-632-3691 www.salvationarmyalm.org/tuscaloosa/volunteer

Tuscaloosa Metro Animal Shelter

3140 35th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-752-9101 www.metroanimalshelter.org

United Way of West Alabama (Additional Volunteer Listing)

2720 6th St. Ste. 100 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-6640 www.uwwa.org/volunteer-uwwa

West Alabama Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging

4200 Hwy. 69 Ste. 1 Northport, AL 35473 205-333-2990 1-800-243-5463 www.westalabamaaging.org





Whether you are looking for someone to help an aging parent a few hours a week or need more comprehensive assistance, Home Instead can help.

Home Instead CAREGivers can provide a variety of services. Some include:

- · Companionship Care
- Personal Care
- Meals & Nutrition
- Transportation
- Respite Care

Call for a free, no-obligation appointment

205.764.0387



To us, it's personal.

HomeInstead.com/746

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Caregiver Stress

A caregiver is anyone who provides care for another person in need, such as a child, an aging parent, a husband or wife, friend, or neighbor. Caregiving can be rewarding, but it can also be challenging. Stress from caregiving is common.

Women especially are at risk for the harmful health effects of caregiver stress.

Q: What is caregiver stress?

A: Caregiver stress is due to the emotional and physical strain of caregiving. Caregivers report much higher levels of stress than people who are not caregivers. Many caregivers are providing help or are "on call" almost all day. Some caregivers may feel overwhelmed by the amount of care their aging, sick, or disabled family member needs.

Q: What are the signs and symptoms of caregiver stress?

A: Caregiver stress can take many forms. You may feel frustrated and angry one minute and helpless the next. You may make mistakes when giving medicines. Or you may turn to unhealthy behaviors like smoking or drinking too much alcohol.

Other signs and symptoms include:

- · Feeling overwhelmed
- · Feeling alone, isolated, or deserted by others
- · Sleeping too much or too little
- · Gaining or losing a lot of weight
- · Feeling tired most of the time
- · Losing interest in activities you used to enjoy
- · Feeling worried or sad often
- · Having headaches or body aches often

Q: How does caregiver stress affect my health?

A: Some of the ways stress affects caregivers include:

· Depression and anxiety. Women who are

caregivers are more likely than men to develop symptoms of anxiety and depression.

- · Weak immune system. Stressed caregivers may spend more days sick with the cold or flu. A weak immune system can also make vaccines such as flu shots less effective. Also, it may take longer to recover from surgery.
- · Obesity. Stress causes more weight gain in women than in men. Obesity raises your risk for other health problems, including heart disease, stroke, and diabetes.
- · Higher risk for chronic diseases. High levels of stress can raise your risk for health problems, such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, or arthritis.
- · Problems with short-term memory or paying attention. Caregivers of spouses with Alzheimer's disease are at higher risk for problems with short-term memory and focusing.

Q: What can I do to prevent or relieve stress?

A: Here are some tips to help you prevent or manage caregiver stress:

- · Take a class that teaches you how to care for someone with an injury or illness. To find these classes, ask your doctor or call your local Area Agency on Aging.
- · Find caregiving resources in your community to give you a break. Your community may have adult daycare services or respite services.
- · Ask for and accept help. Make a list of ways others can help you, such as getting groceries or sitting with the person while you do an errand.
- · Make to-do lists and set a daily routine.
- · Stay in touch with family and friends, and do things you enjoy with your loved ones.
- · Take care of your health. See your doctor for checkups, find time to be physically active on most days of the week, choose healthy foods, and get enough sleep.

-Information from the Office on Women's Health www.womenshealth.gov | 800-994-9662



Caring Days Adult Day Care

THE MAL & CHARLOTTE MOORE CENTER

Caring for Adults with Memory Disorders



943 31st Street East, Tuscaloosa 35405 For information call Vicki Kerr at 752-6840 www.caringdays.org

Understanding Dementia, Senility & Alzheimer's Disease

What is Dementia?

Dementia is the permenant, relentless, progressive loss of many intellectual functions. The word "dementia" comes from the Latin words "de men," meaning out of mind. Dementia is caused by death of nerve cells. If a nerve cell dies, it cannot be replaced. Its function may be lost. Nerve cell death or dementia is caused by:

- Alzheimer's disease 60-70%
- Multiple small strokes 15%
- Multiple other causes 10-15%

Five to 20 percent of elderly patients who appear demented have treatable conditions, such as:

- Hormonal imbalance (hypothyroidism)
- Drug/medication-induced confusion
- Depression

What is Alzheimer's disease?

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is one type of dementia; it is often used synonymously with dementia. In 1906, German physician Alois Alzheimer described the disease in a brain specimen autopsy. There is no clear consensus of why the nerve cells die in the brains of Alzheimer's disease patients. Inheritance plays some role:

- 5% clearly inheritable (autosomal dominant)
- · 20-60% may have a genetic predisposition

How many people are affected?

Approximately five million Americans are afflicted with Alzheimer's disease. In Alabama, about 57,000 people have dementia. AD is the fourth leading cause of death among adults in America. Approximately 10 percent of the population over 65 years of age have AD. Forty-seven percent of those over the age of 85 have dementia. This is the fastest growing

segment of the population in the United States. Dementia afflicts both men and women in all racial, religious and socioeconomic groups. Sixty percent of all nursing home patients are demented.

What are the symptoms?

Intellectual losses include:

Amnesia: Loss of memory function. Distant memories remain clear while recent memories are lost. Patients lose the ability to store the memory of an event as it occurs; for example, a patient may not remember the course of a conversation from one moment to the next.

Aphasia: Loss of ability to understand spoken/written words and/or inability to speak coherently. Patients may get words confused, jabber incessantly or become mute.

Apraxia: Loss of ability to perform pre-programmed motor tasks or tasks that a normal person completes without any concentration. Some examples include: buttoning a shirt, brushing one's teeth, writing one's name and eating with utensils.

Agnosia: Loss of ability to remember what things look like, including the face of a close relative and even one's own reflection in a mirror.

Psychiatric problems include:

- ·Major personality changes.
- ·Poor judgment, irritability or inappropriate behavior.
- ·25% suffer from depression that should be treated.
- ·30-40% suffer from hallucinations and delusions.
- ·50% wander or become aggressive.

Non-neurological symptoms:

Only the brain is damaged in Alzheimer's. Patients have a long survival rate because other organ systems are not damaged.



We know how important professional rehabilitation facilities and services are to your recovery. Our facilities feature skilled nursing and rehabilitation services and a dedicated staff to help you more fully recover. The Rapid Recovery program offers occupational, speech, and physical therapy for all ages.

Let Rapid Recovery Help You Down The Road To Recovery

HUNTER CREEK

HEALTH AND REHABILITATION, LLC

www.huntercreekhealthandrehabilitation.com

Our Family Caring For Yours

What is the course of the disease?

No two patients are alike. No patient's course is predictable.

- Early (3 to 5 years) Mild amnesia; good function at home; few psychiatric symptoms.
- Middle (3 to 10 years) Many intellectual impairments; poor function at home; many psychiatric/behavior problems.
- Late (5 to 20 years) Multiple severe intellectual impairments; no function at home; total care required; loss of bowel and bladder function.

How can families cope with this disease?

- Education about the disease should be the family's first line of defense.
- Realize that denial of the problem will not make it go away.
- Seek out a knowledgeable, caring physician who will work with you to manage the patient's behavioral problems, as well as their physical complaints.
- Plan ahead. Take care of financial issues and legal documents like a living will and durable

power of attorney.

- Seek out services that will ease your burden such as adult day care, Meals on Wheels, and local support groups.
- · Remember, Alzheimer's programs are here to help.

For more information contact:

Alzheimer's of Central Alabama P.O. Box 2273 Birmingham, AL 35201 205-871-7970 www.alzca.org

Alzheimer's & Dementia Help Line:

1-800-272-3900

Alzheimer's Resource Center:

334-702-2273 or 1-888-702-8689 www.wesharethecare.org

Area Agency on Aging:

205-333-2990 or 1-800-243-5463 www.westalabamaaging.org

Dementia Education and Training Program

200 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-0139 or 800-457-5679 www.alzbrain.org

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America 866-232-8484

www.alzfdn.org

For a listing of Caregiving Support Groups refer to page 38.

Global Tracking Bracelets

Project Lifesaver in Alabama Managed by Alabama State Troopers Aviation Unit 334-284-2658

www.projectlifesaver.org

Caring Days Adult Daycare, Project Lifesaver for Tuscaloosa County

205-752-6840

Adult Day Care

Tuscaloosa County

Caring Days Adult Daycare

943 31st St. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 Monday – Friday 7:30am -5:30pm 205-752-6840 www.caringdays.org

Alzheimer's Units Within Long-Term Care Facilities

Aliceville Manor

703 17th St. NW Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-6307 www.alicevillemanornursinghome.com

Brookdale Place

951 Rose Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-206-7933 www.brookdale.com

Crimson Village

1410 18th Ave. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-632-6699 www.crimsonvillage.com

Generations of Vernon 1050 Convalescent Rd.

Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9313 www.genmanco.com/Generations/Generations_of_ Vernon,_LLC.html

Glen Haven Health & Rehabilitation, LLC

2201 32nd St. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-5700 www.glenhavenhealthandrehab.com



Greene County Residential Care Center

509 Wilson Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3388 www.gcheutaw.com/greene-county-residential-carecenter.html

Martinview Assisted Living

2015 32nd St. Northport, AL 35476 205-333-0085 www.martinviewliving.com

Morning Pointe Assisted Living

1801 Rice Mine Rd. N Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-345-1112 www.morningpointe.com/tuscaloosa

Regency Retirement Village

Rememberance Village 5001 Old Montgomery Hwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-752-5500 www.regencytuscaloosa.com

Traditions Way at Capstone Village

601 5th Ave. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-347-0028 www.capstonevillage.ua.edu

Dementia

How to Distinguish Between Dementia and Delirium

By Steve L. Flanagan, LCSW Senior Care Unit Pickens County Medical Center

Then an older loved one begins to display symptoms of change in their mental or cognitive behaviors, caregivers are often startled and suspect that their loved one has Alzheimer's Disease. As it is reasonable to be concerned about the onset of dementia (Alzheimer's Disease is a form of dementia), it is also important to rule out other factors that may be contributing to changes in a loved one's behavior. In my practice at Pickens County Medical Center's Senior Care Unit, an acute geriatric psychiatric hospital program, efforts are made to rule out symptoms of delirium as the primary cause of behavioral change, as often the application of a medical intervention, such as antibiotic medication or re-hydration may restore a person to previous function rapidly. A person displaying behavioral symptoms over a longer period of time may be experiencing other conditions. Consultation with a physician should be pursued in the event of significant changes in behavior, but here are some tips for caregivers to help determine what may be contributing to changes:

1. Sudden Changes

If a loved one begins to display changes in behavior in a sudden manner (within a 24 hour period), it is possible that the changes may be in response to a medical problem. Should this be the case, the changes may be caused by delirium rather than dementia. Delirium is defined as a state of temporary mental confusion and clouded consciousness (The

American Heritage Dictionary). Symptoms of delirium may include confusion, hallucinations (seeing or hearing things that are not observable to others), anxiety and other behaviors not routinely present. Common sources of delirium include fever, dehydration, constipation or fecal impaction, and urinary tract infection. When these sources are treated, the symptoms will diminish at a rate similar to their onset when the condition is treated.

2. Changes in Behavior Over Time

If a person is observed to display changes in behavior that are sustained over longer periods of time and include symptoms of memory loss, misplacing objects and not being able to locate them, not recognizing well known persons or places (such as home), and speaking aloud to persons not present, dementia, the irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties (American Heritage Dictionary), may be causing the behaviors. Note, however, that a diagnosis of dementia, even by a physician, is theoretical as confirmation of a dementia diagnosis can only be confirmed by examination of brain tissue. Nonetheless, behavioral evidence and indicators revealed by testing can strongly suggest the presence of dementia in an individual.

3. Dementia and Delirium

A person can, of course, experience symptoms of both dementia and delirium. Due to losses of function by persons suffering from dementia, they are at risk for the frequent onset of delirium due to not being able to properly hydrate (drink fluids) and address hygiene needs. These issues make it necessary for caregivers to be alert to activities of daily living, such as the amount of fluid consumed, medication compliance, and the application of techniques in toileting to prevent delirium. Demented persons cannot be expected to wipe

20 | Caregiving

themselves following urination or defecation in ways to prevent fecal matter and urine from causing infection. Equally as important is routine hand hygiene due to touching of surfaces and body parts. Even the applications of best practices to prevent delirium may not prevent onset, thus contact with a medical professional is suggested to determine contributing factors for changes in behavior.

An excellent source of information on care for persons suffering from dementia as well as delirium is www.alzbrain.org. Dr. Richard Powers, a geriatric psychiatrist, developed this site. It includes suggestions for both caregivers as well as health care professionals of practical ways to assist persons with these conditions. If you are serving in the challenging role of a caregiver, you are to be saluted! But remember that continuing education is essential to allow you to fulfill your role on behalf of your loved one.



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- . WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE
- PRENATAL CARE
- DOT PHYSICALS
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Cahaba Medical Care is a Federally Qualified Health Center with a mission to provide high quality, comprehensive, compassionate care for everyone in your family — all ages and all medical conditions. We are also a **Patient Centered Medical Home**.

If your condition requires hospitalization, our physicians have admitting privileges at various hospitals in the communities we serve. We also offer prenatal care with delivery services at Bibb Medical Center and UAB Medical West.

When you walk into our offices, you can expect to see happy familiar faces from your community.



SERVING WEST ALABAMA

WE HAVE 4 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

Centreville Office 405 Belcher St • Centreville, AL 35042 APPOINTMENT LINE 205-926-2992

Maplesville Office 9431 Alabama 22 • Maplesville, AL 36750 APPOINTMENT LINE 334-366-4040

Woodstock Office 28921 Highway 5 • Woodstock, AL 35188 APPOINTMENT LINE 205-938-9348

Bessemer Office 1088 9th Avenue SW • Suite 106 Bessemer, Al 35022 APPOINTMENT LINE 205-277-2358

In-Home Care

*Accepts Private Pay

*Addus Health Care

2421 Presidents Dr. Ste. B8 Montgomery, AL 36116 334-213-7382 www.addus.com

ADPH - Lamar County

380 Springfield Rd. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9195 www.adph.org

ADPH - Tuscaloosa County

2350 Hargrove Rd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-562-6900 www.adph.org

*Alacare

5710 Watermelon Rd. Northport, AL 35473 205-345-5145 www.alacare.com

*Always Home, LLC

203 N. Cedar Ave. Demopolis, AL 36732 334-289-8222

*Always There In-Home Care

971 Fairfax Park Ste. G Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-248-9822 www.alwaysthereinhomecare.com

*Amedisys Home Health Care

1300 McFarland Blvd. Ste. 320 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-752-0606 or 800-261-4316 www.amedisys.com

A Touch of Love

3815 Stafford Pl. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-246-1219

Cahaba Valley Home Health Care

142 Pierson Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-3211

*Caring Hands Senior Care Provider

208 6th Ave. NW Reform, AL 35481 205-463-7044

*Caring Missions Services

6521 Hwy. 69 S Ste. M Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-248-6793

www.caringmissionsservices.com

Comfort Care

2314 11th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-650-3060 www.comfortcarehospice.com

*DCH Home Health Care

1401 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7010 www.dchsystem.com

Fayette Medical Center Home Health

102 2nd Ave. SE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-5961 www.lhcgroup.com

*Focus on Senior Citizens

3801 Loop Rd.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
205-554-1916
www.focusonseniorcitizens.org

Greene County Home Health

607 Wilson Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3399

*Help at Home

509 Energy Center Blvd. Ste. 804 Northport, AL 35473 205-345-9088 www.helpathome.com

Home Instead Senior Care

303 Hargrove Rd E Ste A Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-764-0387 www.homeinstead.com

*Independent Stay Home Care

4301 Ridgemont Ave. Northport, AL 35473 205-534-0847 www.theflahertyllc.com

*Jones' Senior Services 205-887-1715

*Lamar Home Care

131 1st Ave NW Ste B Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-6736 www.lamarhomecareinc.com

*Love's Sitting and Service Care

P.O. Box 638 Greensboro, AL 36744 334-507-4114or 334-624-1449 www.lovesitting.com

*Pickens County Family Resource Center

514 10th Ave. SE Reform, AL 35481 205-367-9382

Pickens County Medical Center Home Health

241 Robert K. Wilson Dr. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8111 www.pickenscountymedical center.com

*Sunbridge Home Health Care

221 Claiborne St. Camden, AL 36726 334-682-9969

*The Personal Care Agency

971 Fairfax Park Ste. D1 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-737-7829

Community Resources 22



Food Assistance

Brown Bag Program

Brown Bag Program

205-333-5353

The Brown Bag Program is a food supplemental program for eligible individuals 60 years of age and older. Seniors are provided with bags of groceries during the third week of each month. There is no cost to the individuals served. Eligibility is determined using the federal poverty level income guidelines. To learn more about this program contact West Alabama Food Bank at www.westalabamafoodbank.org.

Farmers Market Program

Alabama Farmers Market Authority

Richard Beard Bldg. Ste. 003 1445 Federal Dr. Montgomery, AL 36107 334-240-7247

The goal of the Alabama Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) is to provide fresh, nutritious, locally- grown fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs from farmers markets and roadside stands to low-income seniors. Vouchers are provided for individuals 60 years of age and older who are on a limited income, allowing them to purchase fresh produce at farmers markets. Qualified recipients may receive only one voucher booklet. Quantities are limited. Booklets are mailed out in the spring. To request vouchers, you can register online at www.BuyLocalAlabama.com

Food Stamps

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Alabama Elderly Simplified Application Project (AESAP)

AESAP is designed to reinvent the Food Assistance Program application process for those households where all members are elderly (60+) and have no earned income. Income and resource limits are the same for any other food assistance household. If you do not qualify for AESAP, you may still qualify for the regular Food Assistance Program at your local county office. To apply for food assistance through AESAP, contact the AAA at 205-333-2990 or 1-800-432-5030.

Home Delivered Meals

Meals on Wheels

Community Service Programs 205-752-5429

Home Bound Meal Program

Area Agency on Aging 205-333-2990 1-800-243-5463

West Alabama Food Bank

205-333-5353

This program covers Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens and Tuscaloosa Counties and has many partners such as churches and organizations that assist with donations and distribution of the Brown Bags.

Individuals can be sponsored to receive this service for an annual cost of \$50. Monthly donations are also accepted.



*Services available vary from free food pantries, discounted food to prepared meals.

Bibb County

Brent Baptist Church Caring Center 2446 Main Street Brent, AL 35034

205-926-7687 www.brentbaptistchurch.org/ ministries/caring-center

Caffee Junction Church of God Food Pantry

21231 Hwy 11 N McCalla, AL 35111 205-477-9100 www.cj-cog.org/ministries

Lillie Star District Community Development Association

10600 Highway 5 Brent, AL 35034 205-926-6872

New Life Assembly of God Food Pantry

27039 AL-5 Woodstock, AL 35188 205-938-2938 www.nlag.cc

Fayette County

Community Service Programs of West Alabama and the Christian Center for Concern

1600 Temple Ave. N Ste. 7 Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-3218

Greene County

Community Service Programs of West Alabama

116 Prairie Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-4562 cspwal.com

Hale County

Community Service Programs of West Alabama 800 Hall St.

Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-4455 cspwal.com

Moundville Baptist Church 150 5th Ave. Moundville, AL 35474

Lamar County

205-371-6370

Christian Center of Concern 55305 Hwy. 17

Sulligent, AL 35586 205-698-7197 cspwal.com

Helping Hand Food Pantry Millport Church of the Nazarene

Hwy. 96 W Millport, AL 35576 205-662-4174 or 205-662-4826

Matt Miller Food Pantry Propst Memorial United Methodist Church

131 Wood Dr. Millport, AL 35576 205-662-3406 or 205-712-3327

Pickens County

Carrollton United Methodist Church

85 Tuscaloosa Ave. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8843

Pickens County Community Action & Community Development Corporation Inc.

71 Lakeside St. Carrollton, AL 35442 205-367-8166 or 205-367-1283 www.caapickens.org

Pickens County Family Resource Center

514 10th Ave. SE Reform, AL 35481 205-367-9382

Tuscaloosa County

Catholic Social Services of West Alabama

608 James I. Harrison Jr. Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-759-1268 www.csstuscaloosa.org

Christian Ministry Center

3880 Watermelon Rd. Ste. B Northport, AL 35473 205-752-8399

Community Service Programs of West Alabama, Inc.

601 Black Bears Way Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-752-5429 855-211-0950 www.cspwal.com/contact

Community Soup Bowl

1171 23rd Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 205-752-2421 www.tuscaloosasoupbowl.com

Cornerstone Full Gospel Baptist Church

610 Brooksdale Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-4892

East Tuscaloosa Community Soup Bowl at

Hargrove Memorial United Methodist Chuch

1812 Hargrove Rd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-553-4588 www.etcsb.net

Lakewood Baptist Church

14468 Hwy 43 N Northport, AL 35475 205-333-0414

Love Inc.

3101 Main Ave. Ste. A Northport, AL 35476 205-614-2849 (also provides transportation, home repairs and other forms of assistance) www.loveinctuscaloosa.com

Pleasant Grove Baptist Association Christian Ministries Center 16995 Walden Pond Rd.

Brookwood, AL 35444 205-554-7706 www.pleasantgrovebaptist association.org

Temporary Emergency Services 1705 15th St.

Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-5535 www.temporaryemergencyservices.org

The Little Closet Community Food Pantry

13222 Fondren Rd. Northport, AL 35546 205-534-3104 www.thelittlecloset.org

The Salvation Army

2902 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-632-3691 www.salvationarmyalm.org/ tuscaloosa/center-hope

University Church of Christ

1200 Julia Tutwiler Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-3001

Homeless Resources

Dent Transitional Program

(Homeless Shelter for men) 15769 Thomas Chapel Rd. Cottondale, AL 35453 205-246-5655 or 205-765-4591

King's Home & Hannah Home

(Women & Children only) 205-553-0045

Jesus Way Shelter

2662 24th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-9771

Turning Point

(Women & Children only) Safehouse - Address not disclosed 205-758-0808 www.turningpointservices.org

VA Medical Center

3701 Loop Rd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-554-2000 877-4AID-VET

Area Agency on Aging Programs



Aging & Disabilities Resource Center (ADRC)

Our information and referral services offer aging and individuals with disabilities assistance in understanding how their needs, preferences and unique situations translate into locating services and benefits available in West Alabama. Assistance is available by phone, e-mail, or in person.

Alabama Cares Program

Supports family caregivers in an effort to keep families together and allow seniors to remain at home instead of moving to costly long-term care facilities.

Services include:

- · Information on available services;
- Assistance in gaining access to services;
- Education, counseling, support groups and caregiver training;
- Respite care to provide a temporary relief or break;
- · Supplemental services, on a limited basis, to

complement the care provided.

The eligibility categories are:

- A primary caregiver for an older person age 60+ or any age if person has Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.
- A grandparent or relative caregiver, age 55+ for a child age 18 or younger or an adult child age 19-59 with severe disability.

Health Promotion Classes & Benefits

Our Agency has certified staff members who teach a variety of Evidence-Based Programs (EBPs). These programs offer proven ways to promote health and prevent disease among older adults. These Evidence-Based Programs are based on research and provide documented health benefits. Older adults who participate in EBPs can lower their risk of chronic diseases and falls, or improve long-term effects of chronic diseases or falls.

- A Matter of Balance: This four to six week program is proven to reduce fall risk and fear of falling, improve fall self-management, develop fall self-efficacy and promote physical activity.
- Chronic Disease Self-Management Program: This six week program is designed to enable participants to build self- confidence, take part in maintaining their health and manage chronic health conditions such as: hypertension, arthritis, heart disease, stroke, lung disease, and diabetes.
 - Stress Busting Program for Family

 Caregivers: This nine week program aims to improve the quality of life of family caregivers who provide care for people with Alzheimer's

disease or other dementias by helping caregivers manage their stress and cope better with their lives.

Home & Community Based Services In-Home Service Program Waiver Program

Elderly & Disabled Waiver HIV/AIDS Waiver ACT: Alabama Community Transition Waiver TA: Technology Assisted Waiver

Provides services for elderly and disabled low-income people, who, without assistance, might have to be cared for in a nursing home, but choose to stay in their home.

To qualify for the program, individuals must have an income below three times the Federal Poverty Rate and meet certain standards of medical need established by Medicaid.

The Medicaid Waiver Program provides clients the following services, which are paid for by the Alabama Medicaid Agency:

- Case Management coordinates services, provides needs assessments and information, and assists with referrals, benefits and entitlements.
- Homemaker Services general household activities, which include meal preparation, food shopping, errand running and routine household
- **Personal Care** bathing, dressing, ambulating, light housekeeping, emotional security, feeding and supervising the self-administration of medications.
- **Respite Care** provided to individuals unable to care for themselves on a short-term basis, offering relief to the person normally providing the care.
- Home-Delivered Frozen Meals delivered to the home once per week. The client must have a microwave or oven for heating the meals and freezer space for storage.
- Companion Services provides supervision to functionally impaired adults who live alone and need assistance with housekeeping and personal grooming tasks.

Skilled Nursing – a service which provides skilled medical observation and nursing services by a Registered Nurse or Practical Nurse.

In-Home Services assist homebound individuals age 60 and older with shopping, minor chores and other homemaking activities if the senior is unable to do these tasks. This service is available on a limited basis.

Legal Services Program

Through a contractual agreement with the University of Alabama Law School, assistance is available for older adults in West Alabama. Legal Counsel for the Elderly provides assistance with a wide variety of issues including health care, advance health care directives, wills and trusts, public benefits, and protective services. No fees are charged for the service, but donations are welcomed. Visit www.uaelderlaw.org or call 205-348-4960

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman is an advocate for residents who live in licensed nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The Ombudsman is an impartial, third party who investigates complaints and works to resolve issues on behalf of residents.

Personal Choices Program

For clients enrolled in the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program who choose to self-direct their care, the Personal Choices Program is available. Through this program, clients select their worker and determine their own schedules.

Senior Activity Center Program

WARC-AAA supports 22 senior activity centers. Senior Activity Centers (SAC) offer a variety of activities and programs as well as hot, nutritious meals to enjoy with friends.

Community Resources

Home-delivered meals, transportation, socialization, recreation, and volunteer opportunities are also available. To be eligible, a person must be 60 years or older or the spouse of an eligible senior.

Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)

This program provides part-time training assignments for low income persons 55 years or older. Training assignments are in agencies that serve the needs of local communities. These agencies, referred to as Host Agencies, include: schools, libraries, county departments, public parks, local aging service providers and many others. The goal of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) is to promote dignity, independence and the well-being of older workers by providing job skills training, employment preparation and job placement.

SenioRx Prescription Drug Program

Assists individuals with applying for assistance programs offered by pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Those eligible:

- Are at least 55 years of age
- Have NO prescription drug coverage
- Have a chronic medical condition
- · Are legal residents of Alabama
- · Are in the Medicare Part D coverage gap
- Meet certain income limits
- Are any age and have been deemed disabled by Social Security, or have applied for disability and are waiting on a decision, or have a doctor's declaration of disability
- · Are in the 24-month Medicare waiting period.

State Health Insurance & Assistance Program (SHIP): Medicare Counseling

The State Health Insurance and Assistance Program is available in West Alabama to help Medicare beneficiaries sort through their options for FREE. SHIP can assist someone with understanding their Medicare benefits, Part D plan comparisons, enrollment, Medicare Savings Programs (QMB/SLMB), Medigap/Secondary coverage, Long-Term Care Insurance, and more.

Veteran-Directed Home and Community Based Services Program

The VD-HCBS program is a new Veteran-Directed approach to providing services and support in the homes and communities of eligible Veterans.

To be eligible, a Veteran must first be enrolled with the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), have a VA primary care team, meet the eligibility criteria for the Home and Community Based services as determined by the VA and receive a referral from the VAMC to West Alabama Regional Commission (WARC). This self-directed program allows Veterans' choice, control, flexibility and freedom in planning their own services and supports. They can hire family and friends, if they choose, and pay them a fair wage. They may also purchase goods, which contribute to their established care plan.





CALL YOUR LOCAL ADRC

(205-333-2990 or 1-800-AGELINE)

to locate local services, programs & resources for seniors, people with disabilities & caregivers!

- Serving individuals age 60 and older, adults with disabilities, their family and caregivers
- Providing information, referral and assistance on state and federal programs
- Providing Options Counseling for planning long-term services and support
- Conducting an in-depth screening to determine eligibility for available programs and services
- Providing outreach within West Alabama

This is a <u>FREE</u> service provided through the West Alabama Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

Located at 4200 Highway 69 N, Northport, Alabama 35473
205-333-2990 or 1-800-AGELINE

Government Offices

City/Town Government

Bibb County

Brent	205-926-4643
Centreville	205-926-4995
West Blocton	205-938-7622
Woodstock	205-938-9790

Fayette County

Belk	205-932-9292
Berry	205-689-4562
Fayette	205-932-5367
Glen Allen	205-487-2014

Greene County

Boligee	205-336-8531
Eutaw	205-372-4212
Forkland	334-289-3032
Union	205-372-3498

Hale County

Akron	205-372-3148
Greensboro	334-624-8119
Moundville	205-371-2641
Newbern	334-624-3633

Lamar County

Beaverton	205-698-0744
Detroit	205-273-4294
Kennedy	205-596-3670
Millport	205-662-4228
Sulligent	205-698-9111
Vernon	205-695-7718

Pickens County

Aliceville	205-373-2559
Carrollton	205-367-8711

Canda	205-364-7111
Gordo	203-304-7111
McMullen	205-701-1121
Pickensville	205-373-2068
Reform	205-375-6363

Tuscaloosa County

005 550 1000
205-556-1300
205-507-0200
205-333-8181
205-477-1999
205-339-7000
205-248-5311
205-553-8278

County Government

County Commission Offices

Bibb	205-926-3114
Fayette	205-932-4510
Greene	205-372-3349
Hale	334-624-4257
Lamar	205-695-7333
Pickens	205-367-2020
Tuscaloosa	205-349-3870

Local District Offices

Medicaid Tuscaloosa Office

907 22nd Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-391-6760 www.medicaid.alabama.gov

Social Security Administration

2005 University Blvd. Ste. 1200 205-349-4630 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 877-480-4988 www.ssa.gov

Alabama Cooperative Extension County Offices

Bibb County

183 SW Davidson Dr. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-4310

Fayette County

650 McConnell Loop Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-8941

Greene County

107 Harris Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3401

Hale County

701 Hall St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-8710

Lamar County

281 Columbus Ave. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7139

Pickens County

155 Reform St. Rm. 300 Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8148

Tuscaloosa County

2513 7th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-4630

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Enrollment Period: October 15 - December 7

Remember to Review Your Medicare Benefits Annually

Plans (Medicare Part C and D) can change their costs (premiums/coverage) annually, be sure you are in the plan that saves you the most!

Local help is available through SHIP, the State Health Insurance & Assistance Program, located at your local Area Agency on Aging office: 4200 Hwy 69 N Northport, AL 35473

Call SHIP for guidance at 1-800-243-5463 or 205-333-2990 to schedule an appointment



Alabama State Health Insurance Assistance Program

Department of Human Resources (DHR) County Offices

Bibb County

84 Library St. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-2900

Fayette County

410 16th St. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-1665

Greene County

36 Park St. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-5000

Hale County

906 Wheelan St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-5820

Lamar County

250 Springfield Rd. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-5000

Pickens County

401 Tuscaloosa Ave. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-1500

Tuscaloosa County

3716 12th Ave. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-554-1100

Emergency Management County Offices

Bibb County

157 SW Davidson Dr. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-3113

Fayette County

118 1st Ave. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-6113

Greene County

102 Prairie Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-1911

Hale County

998 Church St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-8160

Lamar County

1118 Co. Rd. 9 Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7105

Pickens County

155 Reform St. Rm. 100 Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-2009

Tuscaloosa County

2810 35 St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-0150

Public Health Dept. (PHD) County Offices

Bibb County

281 Alexander Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-9702

Fayette County

215 1st Ave. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-5260

Greene County

412 Morrow Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-9361

Hale County

670 Hall St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-3018

Lamar County

300 Springfield Rd. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9195

Pickens County

80 William E. Hill Dr. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8157

Tuscaloosa County

2350 Hargrove Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-562-6900

State Government

Alabama Dept. of Human Resources

50 N. Ripley St. Ste. 2104 Montgomery, AL 36130 334-242-1310 www.dhr.state.al.us

Alabama Dept. of Insurance Consumer Division

P.O. Box 303351 Montgomery, AL 36130 334-269-3550 aldoi.gov

Alabama Dept. of Public Health

201 Monroe St. Montgomery, AL 36104 334-206-5300 800-252-1818 adph.org

Alabama Dept. of Senior Services

201 Monroe St. #350 Montgomery, AL 36130 877-425-2243 www.alabamaageline.gov

Alabama Medicaid Agency

501 Dexter Ave. Montgomery, AL 36103 334-242-5000 www.medicaid.alabama.gov

Federal Government

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

7500 Security Blvd. Baltimore, MD 21244 800-633-4227 www.cms.gov

FEMA-Region IV

3003 Chamblee Tucker Rd. Atlanta, GA 30341 800-621-FEMA (3362) 770-220-5200 TDD: TTY dial 800-462-7585 for Federal Relay Service www.fema.gov

Medicare

www.medicare.gov 800-633-4227 or 1-800-MEDICARE TTY 877-486-2048

Medicare Fraud Hotline 800-447-8477

Social Security Administration

800-772-1213 TTY 800-325-0778 www.ssa.gov

Veterans Administration and Affairs

Bibb/Hale County

35 Court Square E Ste. 105 Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-3116

Fayette County

103 First Ave. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-6262

Greene County

20 S Commerce St. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-6977

Lamar County

Courthouse Annex Bevill Building West Columbus Ave. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7253

Pickens County

Service Center Bldg. Room 302B Hwy 17 N Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-2099

Tuscaloosa County

714 Greensboro Ave. Room 241 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-3870 ext. 361

VA Medical Center Tuscaloosa

3701 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-554-2000 1-888-269-3405 www.va.gov

Chamber of Commerces

Aliceville Area Chamber of Commerce

419 Memorial Pkwy. E Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-2820 www.thecityof aliceville.com/chamber/ chamber-information

Bibb County Chamber of Commerce

835 Walnut St. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-5222 www.bibbchamber.org

Fayette Area Chamber of Commerce

203 Temple Ave. N. Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-4587 www.fayetteareachamber.org

Gordo Area Chamber of Commerce

25226 Hwy 82 Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-7870 www.gordoareachamber.com Greensboro
Business Association
Steven Barnette, Jr.
P.O. Box 211
Greensboro, AL 36744
334-624-8741

Millport Chamber of Commerce 156 Hwy 96 Millport, AL 35576 205-662-5936 The Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama 2201 Jack Warner Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-7588 www.tuscaloosachamber.com

Vernon Chamber of Commerce 44425 Hwy 17 Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7718

Elected Officials - Federal



Senator Jeff Sessions 1800 Fifth Avenue N Birmingham, AL 35203 205-731-1500



Senator Richard Shelby Federal Courthouse 2005 University Blvd Ste. 2100 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-5047



Rep. Robert Aderholt District 4 247 Carl Elliot Building 1710 Alabama Avenue Jasper, AL 35501 205-221-2310



Rep. Gary Palmer District 6 3535 Grandview Pwy Ste. 525 Birmingham, AL 35243 205-968-1290



Rep. Terri Sewell District 7 Federal Building 2501 7th St Ste 300 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-752-5380

State Capitol

600 Dexter Ave. Montgomery, AL 36104 334-242-7100

Lt. Governor: 334-242-7900

Alabama State House 11 South Union St. Montgomery, AL 36130 Senate Information: 334-242-7800

Representative Information: 334-242-7600

Elected Officials - State



Governor **Robert Bentley**



Lt. Governor Kay Ivey







Sen. Bobby Singleton Choctaw, Clark, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, Pickens, Sumter and Tuscaloosa County



Sen. Cam Ward Bibb, Chilton, Hale, Jefferson and Shelby County



Sen. Gerald Allen

Lamar, Pickens

and Tuscaloosa

Rep. Chris England Tuscaloosa County



Sen. Greg Reed

Fayette, Jefferson,

Tuscaloosa, Walker

and Winston County

Rep. Alan Harper Greene, Pickens and Tuscaloosa County



Rep. Ralph Howard Bibb, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry and Sumter County



Rep. Artis AJ McCampbell Choctaw, Greene, Marengo, Pickens, Sumter, Tuscaloosa County



Rep. Mike Millican Lamar, Marion and Winston County



Rep. Bill Poole luscaloosa County



Rep. Kyle South Fayette, Jefferson, Lamar and Tuscaloosa County



Rep. April Weaver Bibb, Chilton and Shelby County



Rep. Rich Wingo Tuscaloosa County

Transportation

Medicaid Recipients 800-362-1504 www.medicaid.alabama.gov

Bibb County

West Alabama Public Transportation 1145 Montgomery Hwy. Centreville, AL 35042 205-225-0220

Fayette County

Fayette Aging Programs
125 2nd Ave. NW
Fayette, AL 35555
205-932-2666
www.fayetteal.org/departments/
senior-center

Greene County

West Alabama Public Transportation 205-372-4494

Hale County

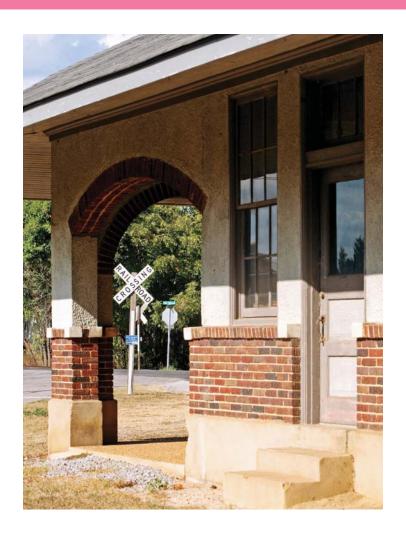
West Alabama Public Transportation 205-371-6318

Lamar County

Lamar County Aging Programs 205-695-0222

Pickens County

HELP Inc. 205-367-2200



Tuscaloosa County

Easter Seals West Alabama205-759-1211 ext. 271
www.eswaweb.org/
transportation-program

FOCUS on Senior Citizens 205-554-1919 www.focusonseniorcitizens.org/ transportation.html

Love INC 205-614-2849 www.loveinctuscaloosa.com Tuscaloosa Transit Authority 205-343-2300

UCP of West Alabama 1100 UCP Pkwy Northport, AL 35476 205-345-3031 www.ucpwa.org

Whatley Health Transportation 205-758-6647 www.whatleyhealth.org

Support Groups

Parkinson's <u>Support Groups</u>

Tuscaloosa Parkinson's Support Group

Fellowship Hall at First Christian Church 627 Paul Bryant Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-246-9652

Cancer **Support Groups**

Behind The Ribbon

First Methodist Church 800 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 205-759-7877

Cancer Wellness

Lewis and Faye Manderson Cancer Center 809 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7877

HEART Healing with the Arts

Lewis and Faye Manderson Cancer Center 801 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7877

IMPACT Breast Cancer Support Group

First Methodist Church 800 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 205-759-7877

Look Good...Feel Better

Lewis and Faye Manderson Cancer Center 809 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7877

Pickens County Cancer Support Group

Pickens County Medical Center 241 Robert K Wilson Dr. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8111

Prostate Cancer Support Group

Lewis and Faye Manderson Cancer Center 809 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7877

Stretch Cancer Support Group for Women

UA Recreation Center Studio A Tuscaloosa, AL 205-759-7877

Grief Support Groups

Grief Share

First Baptist Church 721 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-394-3464

Hospice of West Alabama

3851 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-523-0101 www.hospiceofwestalabama.org /griefsupport





1801 Rice Mine Road North Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 (205) 345-1112 morningpointe.com



The Region's Choice for Assisted Living & Memory Care!

Community Resources



Spanish-Hispanic Assistance

Holy Spirit Catholic Church 205-553-9733

InterpreterGabriel Muniz
205-239-3145

Caregiver Support Groups

Alzheimer's Family Support Group

Caring Days Mal and Charlotte Moore Building 943 31st St. E., Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-752-6840

Alzheimer's Support Group

The Lantern at Morning Pointe 1801 Rice Mine Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-345-1112

Amazing Caregiver Support Group

Bethel Baptist Church 3003 25th St. Tusclaoosa, AL 35401 205-758-2108

Caring Hearts

First Baptist Church Tuscaloosa 721 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-394-3474

Dementia with Grace at Alicville Manor Nursing Home

703 17th St. NW Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-6307

Fayette County Support Group Morningview Estates

404 25th St. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-4003 or 205-333-2990 or 800-243-5463

Hale County Support Group

Department of Human Resources (DHR) 906 Wheelen St. Greensboro, AL 36744 205-333-2990 or 800-243-5463





Elder Abuse Defined

Elder abuse can occur anywhere. It can occur in a person's home and in Long-Term Care Residential facilities. Elder abuse affects elders of all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races. Data shows that elders are most often abused by family members or a person in a position of trust. Most victims know their abuser. Elders who have the highest risk of abuse are women, "older elders", and individuals with dementia.

Definitions of Elder Abuse include:

• Emotional Abuse: The intentional infliction of mental or emotional anguish by threat, humiliation, intimidation, or other verbal or non-verbal abusive conduct.

Examples: name calling, insulting, ignoring for extended periods of time, frightening, intimidating, and isolating from friends and family.

- Financial: The unauthorized use of funds or any resources of an elderly individual; the misuse or exploitation of Power of Attorney or Representative Payee Status for one's own advantage or profit. Examples: stealing jewelry or other property and obtaining the elderly person's signature for transfer of property or for a will through force, pressure or violence.
- **Neglect:** The failure by the caregiver to obtain adequate goods or services for the elderly person's maintenance and well-being, either intentionally or accidently.

Examples: a caregiver who fails to buy groceries or prescription medications. Neglect can also be self-induced.

- **Self-neglect:** When the behavior of an elderly person threatens his or her own health or safety. **Examples:** failure to provide oneself with adequate food, clothing, shelter, medication, safety, and proper hygiene.
- **Physical Abuse:** The intentional use of physical force that results in bodily injury, pain, or impairment.

Examples: beating, slapping, bruising, cutting, burning, pushing or shoving, excessively restraining, force-feeding, and physical punishment.

• **Sexual Abuse:** The non-consensual sexual contact of any kind with an elderly individual. **Examples:** fondling of the breast or genitals, rape, coerced nudity, and sexually explicit photographing.

The **Rod** Flags:

* Emotional Abuse:

- · Unexplained or uncharacteristic changes in behavior, such as withdrawal from normal activities, unexplained changes in alertness;
- · Social isolation;
- · Caregiver is verbally aggressive or demeaning, controlling, overly concerned about spending money, or uncaring

* Exploitation:

- · Lack of amenities person can afford;
- Elder giving excessive financial reimbursement/ gifts for needed care and companionship;
- · Caregiver has control of elder's finances, but fails to provide for elder's needs;
- Elder has signed property transfers (Power of Attorney, new will, etc.) but is unable to comprehend the transaction or what it means.

* Neglect:

- · Lack of basic hygiene, adequate food, or clean and appropriate clothing;
- \cdot Lack of medical aids (glasses, walker, dentures, hearing aids, medications);
- · Person with dementia left unsupervised;
- · Person confined to a bed left without care:
- · Home cluttered, filthy, in state of disrepair, or fire and safety hazards;
- Home without adequate facilities (stove, refrigerator, heating, cooling, working plumbing, and electricity);
- Untreated pressure "bed" sores (pressure ulcers)

* Physical/Sexual Abuse:

- · Unexplained fractures, bruises, welts, cuts, sores, burns, torn or bloody undergarments
 - Information from the Alabama Department of Senior Services

Elder Abuse Hotline

800-458-7214

National Center on Elder Abuse 800-677-1116

For additional assistance refer to page 42 as well as www.alabamaageline.gov/assets/eaptoolkit.pdf

Information Sources

Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission

5845 Carmichael Rd. Montgomery, AL 36117 800-541-9388 (Victims Only) www.acvcc.alabama.gov

Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program

624 Paul Bryant Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 205-348-4928 or 800-826-1675 (In-state clients only) www.adap.ua.edu

Alabama Public Service Commission

100 N. Union St. RSA Union Montgomery, AL 36104 334-242-5218 www.psc.alabama.gov For complaints: 800-392-8050

Eldercare Locator 800-677-1116 www.eldercare.gov

United Way of West Alabama (211)

2720 6th Street Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-6640 www.uwwa.org

Abuse, Neglect ど Exploitation

Division of Health Care Facilities

Dept. of Public Health 800-356-9596 or 334-206-5300

Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence Hotline:

800-650-6522 **Office:**

334-832-4842 www.acadv.org

Turning Point of West Alabama 205-758-0808

The National Domestic Violence Hotline:

1-800-799-7233 TTY: 1-800-787-3224 (Refer to Page 32 for Local DHR Contacts by County)

Legal Services

The University of Alabama Legal Counsel for the Elderly 205-348-4960 or www.uaelderlaw.org

Legal Services Corporation of Alabama

2315 9th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-7503 or 886-456-4995

Tax Preparation Assistance

Focus on Senior Citizens 3801 Loop Road Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-3133

University of Alabama Save First

1-888-99-TAXAL (8-2925) www.impactamerica.com

LEGAL COUNSEL

A University of Alabama Law School Clinical Program funded in part by West Alabama Regional Commission's Area Agency on Aging

Legal Counsel for the Elderly (LCE) is a University of Alabama Law School Clinical Program, partly funded by the West Alabama Regional Commission's Area Agency on Aging that introduces law students to the growing field of elder law and provides practical experience to 3rd year law students during the fall and spring terms.

As an AAA legal provider, it also provides a broad range of free legal services to those 60 or over who are residents of Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens and Tuscaloosa Counties. LCE is one of thirteen legal providers offering such services in Alabama under grants from Area Agencies on Aging through the Older Americans Act (42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.).

FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL: 205-348-4960 OR 1-800-492-9036

Top 10 Financial Scams TARGETING SENIORS

Financial scams targeting seniors have become so prevalent that they're now considered "the crime of the 21st century." Why? Because seniors are thought to have a significant amount of money sitting in their accounts.

Financial scams also often go unreported or can be difficult to prosecute, so they're considered a "low-risk" crime.

However, they're devastating to many older adults and can leave them in a very vulnerable position with little time to recoup their losses. It's not just wealthy seniors who are targeted. Low-income older adults are also at risk of financial abuse. And it's not always strangers who perpetrate these crimes. Over 90% of all reported elder abuse is committed by an older person's own family members, most often their adult children, followed by grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and others.

Review the list below, so you can identify a potential scam.

1. Medicare/Health Insurance Scams

Every U.S. citizen or permanent resident over age 65 qualifies for Medicare, so there is rarely any need for a scam artist to research what private health insurance

company older people have in order to scam them out of some money.

In these types of scams, perpetrators may pose as a Medicare representative to get older people to give them their personal information, or they will provide bogus services for elderly people at makeshift mobile clinics, then use the personal information they provide to bill

Medicare and pocket the money.

Counterfeit 2. **Prescription Drugs**

Most commonly, counterfeit drug scams operate on the Internet, where seniors increasingly go to find better prices on specialized medications. This scam is growing in popularity - since 2000, the FDA has investigated an average of 20 such cases per year, up from five a year in the 1990s. The danger is that besides paying money for something that will not help a person's medical condition, victims may purchase unsafe substances that can inflict even more harm. This scam can be as hard on the body as it is on the wallet.



Funeral & Cemetery Scams 3.

The FBI warns about two types of funeral and cemetery fraud perpetrated on seniors. In one approach, scammers read obituaries and call or attend the funeral service of a complete stranger to take advantage of the grieving widow or widower. Claiming the deceased had an outstanding debt with them, scammers will try to extort money from relatives to settle the fake debts.

Another tactic of disreputable funeral homes is to capitalize on family members' unfamiliarity with the considerable cost of funeral services to add unnecessary charges to the bill. In one common scam of this type, funeral directors will insist that a casket, usually one of the most expensive parts of funeral services, is necessary even when performing a direct cremation, which can be accomplished with a cardboard casket rather than an expensive display or burial casket.

4. Fraudulent Anti-Aging Products

In a society bombarded with images of the young and beautiful, it's not surprising that some older people feel the need to conceal their age in order to participate more fully in social circles and the workplace. After all, 60 is the new 40, right?

It is in this spirit that many older Americans seek out new treatments and medications to maintain a youthful appearance, putting them at risk of scammers. Whether it's fake Botox, like the one in Arizona that netted its distributors (who were convicted and jailed in 2006) \$1.5 million in barely a year, or completely bogus homeopathic remedies that do absolutely nothing, there is money in the anti-aging business.

Botox scams are particularly unsettling, as renegade labs creating versions of the real thing may still be working with the root ingredient, botulism neurotoxin, which is one of the most toxic substances known to science. A bad batch can have health consequences far beyond wrinkles or drooping neck muscles.

5. Telemarketing/Phone Scams

Perhaps the most common scheme is when scammers use fake telemarketing calls to prey on older people, who as a group, make twice as many purchases over the phone than the national average. While the image of the lonely senior citizen with nobody to talk to may have something to do with this, it is far more likely that older people are more familiar with shopping over the phone, and therefore, might not be fully aware of the risk. With no face-to-face interaction, and no paper trail, these scams are incredibly hard to trace. Also, once a successful deal has been made, the buyer's name is then shared with similar schemers looking for easy targets, sometimes

defrauding the same person repeatedly.

Examples of telemarketing fraud include:

The Pigeon Drop

The con artist tells the individual that he/she has found a large sum of money and is willing to split it if the person will make a "good faith" payment by withdrawing funds from his/her bank account. Often, a second con artist is involved, posing as a lawyer, banker, or some other trustworthy stranger.

The Fake Accident Ploy

The con artist gets the victim to wire or send money on the pretext that the person's child or another relative is in the hospital and needs the money.

Charity Scams

Money is solicited for fake charities. This often occurs after natural disasters.

6. Internet Fraud

While using the Internet is a great skill at any age, the slower speed of adoption among some older people makes them easier targets for automated Internet scams that are ubiquitous on the web and email programs. Pop-up browser windows simulating virus-scanning software will fool victims into either downloading a fake anti-virus program (at a substantial cost) or an actual virus that will open up whatever information is on the user's computer to scammers.

Their unfamiliarity with the less visible aspects of browsing the web (firewalls and built-in virus protection, for example) make seniors especially susceptible to such traps. One example includes:

Email/Phishing Scams

A senior receives email messages that appear to be from a legitimate company or institution, asking them to "update" or "verify" their personal information. A senior receives emails that appear to be from the IRS about a tax refund.

7. Investment Schemes

Because many seniors find themselves

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planning for retirement and managing their savings once they finish working, a number of investment schemes have been targeted at seniors looking to safeguard their cash for their later years. From pyramid schemes like Bernie Madoff's (which counted a number of senior citizens among its victims), to fables of a Nigerian prince looking for a partner to claim inheritance money, to complex financial products that many economists don't even understand, investment schemes have long been a successful way to take advantage of older people.

8. Homeowner/Reverse Mortgage Scams

Scammers like to take advantage of the fact that many people above a certain age own their homes, a valuable asset that increases the potential dollar value of a certain scam.

A particularly elaborate property tax scam in San Diego saw fraudsters sending personalized letters to different properties apparently on behalf of the County Assessor's Office. The letter, made to look official but displaying only public information, would identify the property's assessed value and offer the homeowner, for a fee of course, to arrange for a reassessment of the property's value and therefore the tax burden associated with it.

Closely related, the reverse mortgage scam has mushroomed in recent years. With legitimate reverse mortgages increasing in frequency more than 1,300% between 1999 and 2008, scammers are taking advantage of this new popularity. As opposed to official refinancing schemes, however, unsecured reverse mortgages can lead property owners to lose their homes when the perpetrators offer money or a free house somewhere else in exchange for the title to the property.

9. Sweepstakes & Lottery Scams

This simple scam is one that many are familiar with, and it capitalizes on the notion that "there's no such thing as a free lunch." Here, scammers inform their mark that they have won a lottery or sweepstakes of some kind and need to make some sort of payment to unlock the supposed prize. Often, seniors will be sent a check that they can deposit in their bank account, knowing that while it shows up in their account immediately, it will take a few days before the (fake) check is

rejected. During that time, the criminals will quickly collect money for supposed fees or taxes on the prize, which they pocket while the victim has the "prize money" removed from his or her account as soon as the check bounces.

10. The Grandparent Scam

The grandparent scam is so simple and so devious because it uses one of older adults' most reliable assets, their hearts.

Scammers will place a call to an older person and when the mark picks up, they will say something along the lines of: "Hi Grandma, do you know who this is?" When the unsuspecting grandparent guesses the name of the grandchild the scammer most sounds like, the scammer has established a fake identity without having done a lick of background research.

Once "in," the fake grandchild will usually ask for money to solve some unexpected financial problem (overdue rent, payment for car repairs, etc.), to be paid via Western Union or MoneyGram, which don't always require identification to collect. At the same time, the scam artist will beg the grandparent "please don't tell my parents, they would kill me."

While the sums from such a scam are likely to be in the hundreds, the very fact that no research is needed makes this a scam that can be perpetrated over and over at very little cost to the scammer.

If you suspect you've been the victim of a scam...

Don't be afraid or embarrassed to talk about it with someone you trust. You are not alone, and there are people who can help. Doing nothing could only make it worse. Keep handy the phone numbers and resources you can turn to, including the local police, your bank (if money has been taken from your accounts), and Adult Protective Services. To obtain the contact information for Adult Protective Services in your area, call the Eldercare Locator, a government sponsored national resource line, at: 1-800-677-1116, or visit their website at: www. eldercare.gov.

-Article from the National Council on Aging

Additional Fraud Assistance:

A resource for older Americans who fear they have been victimized is their state securities agency.

Extensive background information on investment salespeople and firms is available from the Central Registration Depository files available from your state securities agency.

Call 1-800-222-1253 or write: Alabama Securities Commission P.O. Box 304700 Montgomery, AL 36130-4700 Alabama residents should call 800-222-1253 or your local law enforcement agency.

- If you want to cut down on the amount of unsolicited offers you receive, call 1-888-567-8688 or go to www.optoutprescreen.com to be removed from the database that generates credit card pre-approved offers.
- If you want to cut down on the number of sales calls you receive, register on the national Do Not Call List by calling 1-888-382-1222 or on-line at www.donotcall.gov.
- If you find anything on your credit report that should not be there, take action immediately.

Alabama consumers are able to obtain a free copy of their credit report from a credit bureau once every 12 months by calling 1-877-322-8228 or visiting www.annualcreditreport.com

The three major credit bureaus are:

Experian: 1-888-397-3742 or www.experian.com Trans Union: 1-800-916-8800 or www.transunion.com Equifax 1-800-685-1111 or www.equifax.com

If your identity is stolen, take immediate action!

- · Report fraud to all three credit bureaus.
- Report theft to local law enforcement and the Federal Trade Commission: 1-877-IDTHEFT or www.FTC.gov. Immediately contact banks, credit card issuers and other creditors.
- Immediately contact the Attorney General's Office in Montgomery at: 334-242-7300 or 1-800-392-5658



Various Assistance

Clothing, Financial, Utility, Etc.

Bibb County

Community Service **Programs of West Alabama** 200 2nd St. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-9384

Fayette County

Christian Center of Concern 210 1st St. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-3218 www.facebook.com/fayette christiancenterofconcern

Community Service Programs of West Alabama

1600 Temple Ave. N Ste. 7 Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-3218 www.cspwal.com

Greene County

Community Service Programs of West Alabama 116 Prairie Ave.

Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-4562

Consolata Missionary Apostolate

331 Boligee St. **Eutaw. AL 3462** 205-372-3497 www.consolatasisters.org

Hale County

Community Service Programs of West Alabama 800 Hall St.

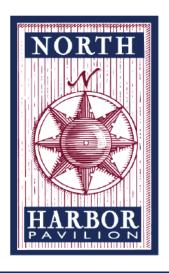
Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-4455 www.cspwal.com

HERO

1120 Main St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-0842 www.herohousing.org

Lamar County

Community Service Programs of West Alabama 145 Columbus Ave. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9573 www.cspwal.com



Where the Journey to Healing Begins

www.dchsystem.com/mentalhealth

(205) 330-3838

Adult and Geriatric Inpatient Mental Health Services Offered by Northport Medical Center





"Always There" In-Home Care, Inc.



"Since my beloved wife died a couple of years ago, after only 65 years of a very happy marriage, I certainly needed someone to take care of me if I expected to continue living in my own home. Thank you, AlwaysThere in-Home Care, for providing a great way for me to do so. On a 24/7 schedule your caregivers have made me feel very comfortable and safe living alone in my own home. I am well fed, the house is very well kept and they have been useful and good company. In particular, I think of my three "regulars" (morning, afternoon & evening, and overnight) as sort of extended family. I simply could not do it without them." — Mr. George xxxxxxxx

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- Meal Preparation & Errands
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In this very busy world in which we live, remember that if we are to remain helpful to others, we must also allow others to help us. If you have a family member in need of assistance, or if you just need a break yourself, we are available 24 hours a day; 7 days a week!

Call Us - 205-248-9822

www.alwaysthereinhomecare.com 971 Fairfax Park, Suite G, Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

Pickens County

Community Action

71 Lakeside St. Carrollton, AL 35442 205-367-8166 or 205-367-1283

Tuscaloosa County

Catholic Social Services of West Alabama

608 James I Harrison Jr. Pkwy. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-759-1268 www.csstuscaloosa.org

The Lazarus Ministry Christ Episcopal Church (Utility Assistance)

605 Lurleen B Wallace Blvd. N Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-4252 www.christchurch1828.org

Christian Ministry Center

n-Home

ssessment

3880 Watermelon Rd. Ste. B Northport, AL 35473 205-752-8399 www.tuscaloosacba.com/ christian-ministry-center

Community Service Programs of West Alabama

601 Black Bears Way Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-752-5429 www.cspwal.com

Forest Lake United Methodist

1711 4th Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-6667

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

1120 35th St. Ste. B Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-4620 www.tuscaloosarestore.org

Love Inc.

3101 Main Ave. Northport, AL 35476 205-614-2849 www.loveinctuscaloosa.com

American Red Cross

1622 Lurleen Wallace Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-758-3608 www.redcross.org

The Salvation Army

2902 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-632-3691 www.salvationarmyalm.org

Temporary Emergency Services

1705 15th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-5535 www.temporaryemergencyservices.org

Energy Assistance *2.2% Electric Exemption Program

This program permits eligible households to qualify for an exemption from payment of the tax on their monthly electric bill. Those qualifying for this program will no longer be billed the 2.2% tax. You will not receive a money payment from this program but will save 2.2% of your monthly electricity bill.

To qualify for this program, you must:

- 1. Be the head of household. (Head of household is defined as that adult household member in whose name the monthly electric bill is received);
- 2. Be 62 years old or older, or between the ages of 18 to 62 and blind or otherwise totally and permanently disabled. If you do not receive a check based on blindness or total and permanent disability, you must present a statement from your doctor saying that you are blind or totally and permanently disabled to engage in gainful employment and give the reason why;
- 3. Share your residence with not more than one other adult person less than 62 years old. (An adult is defined as a person who is 18 years old or older.);
- 4. Have a yearly gross income for you and all members of your household of \$12,000 or less.
- 5. Buy your electricity from a company that collects the 2.2% Gross Receipts License Tax;
- 6. Be an Alabama resident and live in the county where you apply, and be a U. S. citizen or legal alien;
- 7. Furnish a recent electric bill to show the current name, address, and customer account number in whose name the bill is received;
- 8. Cooperate with the Department of Human Resources by furnishing the necessary information or verification required to determine your eligibility;
- 9. Agree to report to your local County Department of Human Resources any change of name or address on your monthly electric bill if you wish to reapply for the exemption.

Where to apply:

You must apply at the Department of Human

Resources office in the county where you live. You may apply in person or someone may obtain an application form for you which must be completed, signed by the head of household, and returned to the Department of Human Resources in the county where you live (see Government Programs, page 32).

In addition, Alabama Power offers the Rate Rider SSI (Supplemental Security Income). Rate Rider is the discount of the basic customer charge of \$14.50 which is available to those persons drawing SSI. Apply at your local Alabama Power Company office. Please note, the Social Security number and name on your application should be exactly as shown on your SSI records. Contact 1-800-245-2244 for more information.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance **Program (LIHEAP)**

LIHEAP is a federally funded program to help eligible, low-income homeowners and renters meet their home heating and/or cooling needs. There is a sign-up for heating costs in the winter and cooling costs in the summer.

Applicants must be the head of the household or their spouse. Applicants 60 and older or disabled can authorize in writing an individual to apply for him/her. Applicants must provide proof of gross income for everyone in the household for the month prior to sign-up, Social Security numbers for all members of the household, and a copy of the latest utility bill showing the account number. Monthly income limits change annually with the Federal Poverty Guidelines. To apply, contact the call center for Community Service Programs of West Alabama at 1-877-803-5509.

Free Garbage Pick-up

In 1989, Alabama adopted legislation requiring each county or municipality to promote and provide for mandatory solid waste collection. In part, the law was established to curtail the illegal dumping and burning of household garbage. Included in the law were provisions to help fixed income households cope with the cost of this service. Included are "households whose sole source of income is Social Security or SSI benefits."

To see if your county or municipality

provides an exemption from the payment of fees required under this article, contact your local Health Department. An environmentalist with the Health Department can provide information about how, where and when to apply.

Telephone Assistance

Lifeline

The federal Lifeline program gives income-eligible consumers a discount on monthly charges for basic local landline residential telephone service purchased from an authorized landline or wireless service provider. Assistance is limited to one monthly discount per customer. Only one Lifeline service is available per household whether landline or wireless. To apply for the discount, contact AT&T at: 1-800-377-9450 or www.att.com/mobility-lifeline

1-800-377-9450 or www.att.com/mobility-lifeline Contact your local landline or wireless telephone company to verify that you are eligible for Lifeline benefits. If your local telephone company is not authorized to provide Lifeline or Link-Up discounts in your area, contact:

Alabama Public Service Commission at: 1-800-392-8050 or Alabama State Utility Consumers Advocate office at the following address:

Office of the Attorney General/Alabama State House P.O. Box 300125

Montgomery, AL 36130 or call 334-242-7300.

The above article contains excerpts from the following website:

www.lifeline.gov/lifeline_consumers.html

SafeLink

SafeLink is a government-supported program which provides a free cell phone and airtime each month for income-eligible customers. SafeLink Wireless offers Lifeline Service. Through SafeLink, applicants receive free cellular service, a free cell phone and free minutes every month. SafeLink Wireless Service does not cost anything – there are no contracts, no recurring fees and no monthly charges.

Features such as caller ID, call waiting and voicemail are included with the service. Additional minutes can be purchased through TracFone Airtime cards at any TracFone retailer (Walmart, Walgreens, Family Dollar, etc).

In Alabama, SafeLink Wireless' Lifeline Service provides:

- A free SafeLink Wireless phone.
- A free cellular plan with 250 minutes every month.

How to Qualify

You may qualify for Lifeline Service if:

- 1. You already participate in one of the following assistance programs:
- · Federal Public Housing Assistance/Section 8
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- · National School Lunch (free program only)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- · Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Food Stamps
- Medicaid

OR

2. Your total household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

AND

- 3. No one in your household currently receives Lifeline Assistance through another phone carrier. If someone in your household is receiving Lifeline Assistance you must cancel the service before applying for Lifeline Service through SafeLink Wireless.
- 4. You have a valid United States postal address. In order for SafeLink to ship you your free phone you must live at a residence that can receive mail from the US Post Office. **P.O. Boxes cannot be accepted.**

If you elect to qualify via income you will need to prove your eligibility by sending a copy

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of a document that confirms your income level. The following are examples of documents that are accepted:

- Four months of consecutive pay stubs
- Letter from your employer
- Last year's income tax return
- Employer W-2 form

How to apply for SafeLink Wireless:

Fill out the application on this website: www.safelinkwireless.com or call 800-SAFELINK. After printing your completed application, sign the application and return it to SafeLink, along with copies of documents that prove you qualify for SafeLink Wireless Service. You may return your application in one of the following ways:

- Fax the application to 1-866-902-5756. Fax is the recommended method.
- Mail your application to PO Box 220009, Milwaukie, OR 97269-0009. Allow 2-3 additional weeks for applications that are sent through the mail.
- Write down the SafeLink Wireless ID provided when you fill out the application. With your ID you can check on the status of your application online or by calling 1-800-977-3768.

Source: www.safelinkwireless.com

Assurance Wireless

Assurance Wireless, one of Virgin Mobile prepaid brands, provides a free wireless phone and 250 minutes of service monthly to eligible low-income customers.

This federally-supported program is available in Alabama, Florida and more than a dozen other states. The phone and basic voice service is free, but customers can choose to pay for additional features such as more minutes, texting or international calls.

You may qualify based on household income or if you participate in one of the following government programs:

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

- · Supplemental Security Income
- · Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- · Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- · Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

In Alabama, income is based on 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Each month, 250 free voice minutes and texts are added automatically. Apply by calling 1-888-898-4888 or visiting www.assurancewireless.com

-Source: www.assurancewireless.com



We know how important professional rehabilitation facilities and services are to your recovery. Our facilities feature skilled nursing and rehabilitation services and a dedicated staff to help you more fully recover. The Rapid Recovery program offers occupational, speech, and physical therapy for all ages.

Let Rapid Recovery Help You Down The Road To Recovery

GLEN HAVEN

HEALTH AND REHABILITATION, LLC

www.glenhavenhealthandrehabilitation.com

Our Family Caring For Yours

Senior Discounts

*This listing is not meant to be all-inclusive or an endorsement of included businesses. Please remember to check with businesses about their current Senior Discout offers as some may have changed after this directory was published.

Repairs

Strip Shop

5% off all repair services 55+

Restaurants

Applebee's

15% off with Golden Apple Card 60+

Arby's

Free beverage with combo 55+

Burger King

10% off or a 75 cent drink 60+

Captain D's

\$4.99 dinners Sundays & Wednesdays 62+

Chick-Fil-A

Small drink or coffee with purchase 55+

Cici's Pizza

\$5.55 all you can eat

Dairy Queen

10% off 60 +

Dunkin Donuts

Free donut with large drink purchase 20% off 1st Wednesday (AARP members) 55+

Hardee's

33 cent beverage 55+

IHOP

10% off 55+

KFC

10% off 55+

McDonald's

Discount on coffee 55+

Outback

15% off (excluding alcohol) (AARP members) 60+

Taco Bell

10% off 65+

Waffle House

10% off 60 +

Wendy's

Free drink with purchase 55+

Retail

Belk

15% off 1st Tuesday 55+

Michael's

10% off 55+

RiteAid

65+

Ross

10% off every Tuesday 55+

Stein Mart

Discounts vary 1st Monday

Walgreens

25% off 1st Tuesday (AARP members) 60+

Other Services

American Shutterbug

15% off film processing 60 +

Ascent Audiology & Hearing

10% off hearing aid purchase Buy one get one batteries 55+

Massage Life & Wellness

10% off any service 55+

Picture This Frame Shop

10% off 55+



Housing Assistance Information

Public Housing

Public housing was established to provide decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all sizes and types, from scattered single family houses to high-rise apartments for elderly families. There are approximately 1.3 million households living in public housing units, managed by some 3,300 housing authorities. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers federal aid to local housing authorities that manage the housing for low-income residents at rents they can afford. **HUD** furnishes technical and professional assistance in planning, developing and managing these developments.

Public housing is limited to low-income families and individuals. The local Housing Authority (HA) determines eligibility based on:

- 1. Annual gross income
- 2. Whether you qualify as elderly, a person with a disability, or as a family
- 3. U.S. citizenship or eligible immigration status.

If you are eligible, the HA will check your references to make sure you and your family will be good tenants. HAs will deny admission to any applicant whose habits and practices may be expected to have a detrimental effect on other tenants or on the project's environment. Housing Authorities use income limits developed by HUD. HUD sets the low income limits at 80 percent and very low income limits at 50 percent of the median income for the county or metropolitan area. Income limits vary by location, so you may be eligible at one HA but not at

another. The HA serving your community can provide you with the income levels for your area and family size. Contact your local HA (listing on page 57) for more information.

Section 8 Housing - Housing Choice Voucher Program

The Section 8 Program provides assistance for low-income families in the private rental market through the Housing Assistance Payments Program. Rental voucher holders select a unit from the private rental market. Rental assistance makes market rate housing affordable. Program participants normally pay no more than 30 percent of their monthly adjusted income towards rent and utilities.

The Housing Assistance Payment subsidizes the balance of the rent to the property owner. The housing unit must meet HUD Housing Quality Standards and the rent must be approvable within HUD Fair Market Rents and market rate comparable.

Eligibility for a rental voucher is determined by the local Housing Authority (HA) based on the total annual gross income and family size and is limited to U.S. citizens and specified categories of non-citizens who have eligible immigration status. Generally, the family's income may not exceed 50 percent of the median income for the county or metropolitan area in which the family lives. Median income levels are published by HUD and vary by location.

The HA serving your community can provide you with the income limits for your area and family size. During the application process, the HA will collect information on family income, composition and assets. The HA will verify this information with other local agencies, your employer and bank, and will use the information to determine program eligibility and the amount of the rental assistance payment. If the HA determines that your family is eligible, it will put your name on a waiting list, unless it is able to assist you immediately. Once your name is reached on the waiting list, the HA will contact you and issue a rental voucher. Contact your local

HA for more information.

Property Taxes and Homestead Exemption

A Homestead Exemption is a tax reduction a property owner may be entitled to if he or she owns a single family residence and occupies it as their primary residence on the first day of the tax year for which they are applying.

There are four types of homestead exemptions:

- 1. Regular Homestead Exemption, or Homestead 1, is available to all citizens of Alabama who own and occupy a single-family residence, if the property is used for no other purpose. The amount of the exemption is \$4,000 of the assessed value for the state taxes and \$2,000 of the assessed value for the county taxes.
- 2. Homestead Exemption 2 is for persons age 65 or older whose adjusted gross income on the state income tax return is less than \$12,000 annually. This exemption is for all state and county taxes up to \$5,000 in assessed value. Those who are permanently and totally disabled or blind, regardless of income are entitled to this exemption.
- 3. Homestead Exemption 3 is for all persons age 65 or older, or who are totally disabled. This exemption is for all property taxes if their annual taxable income on the Federal Tax Return is \$7,500 or less.
- 4. Homestead Exemption 4 is for all persons age 65 or older, regardless of income. This exemption is for the total assessed value of the state taxes and up to \$2,000 of the assessed value of the county taxes.

Exemptions should be applied for between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31 based upon the status of the property as of Oct. 1. For homestead exemptions 2 and 3, an application for special homestead exemption is mailed Oct. 1 to previously qualified homeowners allowing them to renew their special homestead exemption each year. Contact

your local county administrative office to inquire about homestead exemption and your status.

USDA Rural Development

USDA Rural Development is a federal agency whose mission is to help rural Americans improve the quality of their lives. Some of the programs available through USDA Rural Development help finance new or improved housing for moderate-, low- and very low-income individuals/families. General descriptions of these USDA Rural Development programs are provided below.

Home Repairs 504 Loan and Grant Program

USDA Rural Development offers a home repair loan and grant program, called 504 Loan & Grant Program to very low-income households who are owner/applicants. This program does not apply to home rental properties.

- · Maximum loan amount is \$20,000 at 1% interest for up to 20 years.
- · Maximum grant amount is \$7,500 lifetime limit. Applicants must be 62 years of age or older.
- · Loans may be used for remodeling. Grants may only be used to remove health or safety hazards.

Loans can be used for the following purposes:

- · Dwelling improvements
- Dwelling modernization
- · Removal of safety hazards
- Removal of health hazards

Loans cannot be used for the following:

- · New construction
- Repairing dwellings in such poor condition that they would continue to have a major hazard after repairs are made
- · Moving a home or relocating mobile/ manufactured homes
- · Off-site improvements
- · Refinancing debts

Limitations and Requirements for loans:

- The balance of all Section 504 loans to an applicant can never exceed \$20,000.
- The interest rate on the outstanding principal is 1 percent.
- · Loan terms are based on applicant's repayment ability, never to exceed 20 years.
- · Loans of less than \$7,500 may be on a "note only" basis (no mortgage).
- Loans of \$7,500 or more must be secured by a mortgage (with title insurance) with all outstanding debt on the property not exceeding the property value.
- · Cases where the total outstanding indebtedness on the property exceeds \$15,000 require escrow for taxes and insurance (either by USDA or a prior debtor).

To qualify for the Loan Program:

- · Applicant must be a U. S. citizen or a resident non-citizen admitted for permanent residence.
- · Applicant's household must be very low income.
- · Applicant must have evidence of ownership.
- \cdot Property must be in a rural area or town with a population of 20,000 or less.
- · Applicant must possess legal capacity to incur the loan obligation.
- · Applicant must have an acceptable credit history.
- · Applicant must have sufficient and reliable income to repay loan amount requested.
- · Applicant must own and occupy the property being improved and property must be a single family dwelling in a rural area and in need of repair.
- Applicant must be unable to obtain financial assistance from other non-Rural Development or grant sources and lack personal resources that could be utilized to meet the applicant's needs.
- · Applicant must have an income under the "very low" income limits defined by USDA Rural Development.
- · Applicant must have repayment ability for the proposed loan.

Loan applicants age 62 or older may be eligible for grant assistance, as follows:

Grant limitations are:

- The grant may not be used for cosmetic or convenience purposes such as painting, paneling, carpeting, improving closets, improving kitchen cabinets, changing lighting or adding a room other than a bathroom.
- The loan and grant may be used to make a home or bathroom handicapped accessible.
- The loan or grant may be used to install a septic system, install a well, or connect the home to public water.

Homeownership/Rehabilitation Program

USDA Rural Development provides loans for homeownership and/or home rehabilitation called 502 Direct Loan Program.

- · Property financed must be located in eligible rural areas or towns with a population of 20,000 or less.
- · Applicant's household income must be within either the very low- or low-income limits as defined by USDA Rural Development. Please contact a USDA Rural Development office for income limits.
- Applicant may qualify for subsidy to reduce the payments to a level as low as 1 percent interest. Subsidy is reviewed periodically and adjusted according to borrower's income. Portions of the subsidy are subject to recapture if borrower sells the property or ceases to occupy the home.
- Homes financed through USDA Rural Development's Direct 502 Program must meet USDA Rural Development program standards, be inspected by a state registered inspector, meet USDA Rural Development's thermal standards, termite and pest control standards and have adequate plumbing, heating and cooling, electrical, water and waste water disposal systems.

Apartments for Rent

An alternative to homeownership is apartment living. USDA Rural Development provides financing for approximately 500 apartment complexes throughout Alabama giving rural citizens access to more than 16,000 apartment units. Apartments are available for rent to low-income individuals, families, seniors and those with disabilities.

Rental assistance may be available to eligible tenants. For information on the location of USDA Rural Development financed apartments in Alabama, contact one of the offices listed below or a complete listing is available at www.rurdev.usda.gov/al

USDA Rural Devlopment Offices Serving West Alabama

USDA Rural Development - West Alabama 3831-B Palisades Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-553-1733 ext. 4

E-mail: jesse.dixon@al.usda.gov

Housing

Housing Authorities Greene County & Public Housing

Bibb County

Brent Housing Authority 10 White St. Brent, AL 35034 205-926-7781

Fayette County

Berry Housing Authority 11 Hud Dr. Berry, AL 35546 205-689-4564

Fayette Housing Authority 405 6th St. SW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-6250

Greene County

Eutaw Housing Authority 315 Carver Circle Eutaw. AL 35462 205-372-3926

Housing Authority

429 W.M. Branch Heights Dr. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3342

Hale County

Greensboro **Housing Authority** 101 Centreville Circle Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-7728

Lamar County

Hamilton Housing Authority

690 Bexar Ave. E Hamilton, AL 35570 205-921-3155

Kennedy Housing Authority

132 Project St. Kennedy, AL 35574 205-596-3659

Millport Housing Authority

12080 Hwy. 96 Millport, AL 35576 205-662-3269

Sulligent Housing Authority

211 Project St. Sulligent, AL 35586 205-698-9482

Vernon Housing Authority

230 Strickland Circle Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7122

Pickens County

Aliceville Housing Authority

851 Franconia Village Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-8333

Gordo Housing Authority

140 2nd Ave. NE Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-7114

Reform Housing Authority

510 5th Court NW Reform, AL 35481 205-375-6360

Tuscaloosa County

Northport Housing Authority

3500 West Circle Northport, AL 35476 205-752-8171

Tuscaloosa Housing Authority

2117 Jack Warner Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-6619

Senior Friendly Low Income Housing

Bibb County

Brantwood Apartments

507 Alexander Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-5137

Brent Garden Apartments

57 Steele St. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-7547

Cahaba Trace

208 Pierson Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-3286

Country Wood Apartments

420 Nicholson Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-9803

Hill Creek Apartments

1 Hillcreek Dr. West Blocton, AL 35184 205-938-2977 **Cahaba Glades Apartments**

1160 S. Scottsville Rd. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-7619

Fayette County

Brookside/Claymont

1640 2nd Ave. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-3227

Eastside Apartments

820 5th Ave. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-904-9104

Mayfair Manor

705 7th St. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-8590

Springhill Apartments

115 Springhill Dr. Berry, AL 35546 205-689-4194

Terrace Park

744 6th St. SW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-6906

Valley Cove Apartments

804 5th Ave. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-2466

Yester Oakes

612 7th St. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-8783

<u>Greene County</u>

Arrowood Apartments

260 County Rd 82 #9A Boligee, AL 35443 205-336-8563 **Elmwood Manor**

1156 W. End St. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-4400

Eutaw Elderly Village, Inc.

321 Tuscaloosa St. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-1028

Sagewood Apartments

940 W. End St. #1B Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-4947

Hale County

Canterbury Manor

6400 AL Hwy. 14 Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-0770

Carriage Hills

6500 AL Hwy. 14 Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-4843

Magnolia Village

1910 Blount St. #A Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-4388

Moundville Gardens

270 Alabama Ave. Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-9009

Project Horseshoe Farm

1310 Main St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-7455

Lamar County

Fox Ridge Apartments

520 County Rd. 9 Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-0011

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Lawrence Properties

304 Julia Circle Sulligent, AL 35586-4509 205-698-8711

Pickens County

Carrollton Manor Apartments

560 Sanders St. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8196

Grandview Apartments

617 Garden Dr. Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-6150

Reform Manor

569 Manor Circle Reform, AL 35481 205-375-2952

Treeline Apartments

198 Treeline Dr. NE Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-2639

Turtle Cove Apartments

202 Ball St. Reform, AL 35481 205-375-2618

West Hill Apartments

25770 Hwy 82 Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-8903

Tuscaloosa County

Bonita Terrace Apartments

1300 Hargrove Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-5870

Branscomb Apartments

570 60th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-758-1829

Chastain Manor

381 34th Ave. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-409-8622

Chesnutt Trace Apartments

(Tax Credit Property) 9801 Old Greensboro Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-722-9200

Clara Verner Towers

101 Old Hackberry Ln. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-1202

Crescent East Apartments

5041 1st St. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-556-1074

CSP Village

2700 McFarland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-391-4936

Field Crest Apartments

1000 Fieldcrest Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-752-3044

Forrester Gardens

1350 James I Harrison Jr. Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-553-4410

Georgetown Apartments

2725 43rd Ave. Northport, AL 35476 205-535-0066

Grandview Apartments

(Tax Credit Property) 1700 Snows Mill Ave. Northport, AL 35476 205-752-3331

Hallmark Homes

(Tax Credit Property) 815 Garden Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-750-2488

Hampton Point Apartments

(Tax Credit Property) 1900 Snows Mill Ave. Northport, AL 35476 205-758-7774

Hay Court Apartments

4420 21st St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-7514

McConnell Hills

4620 18th Ave. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-553-1223

McDaniel Arms

1791 Harper Rd. Northport, AL 35476 205-333-0224

McKenzie Annex

2498 35th Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-7514

Oak Trace Apartments

5775 McFarland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-758-0544

Presbyterian Apartments Building 1 & II

3845 Hwy. 69 N Northport, AL 35473 205-339-5180

Providence Place

(Tax Credit Property) 3503 38th St. Northport, AL 35473 205-333-7888

Pine Cone Apartments

2101 44th St. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-562-1992

Running Brook

4413 Cypress Creek Ave. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-556-8070

Saddlewood Apartments

2400 Deerfield Dr. Northport, AL 35473 205-339-0660

Somerville Apartments

(Tax Credit Property) 5701 McFarland Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-758-4300

Rosedale Apartments

1021 Robert Glenn Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-9700

Winding Creek Apartments

(Tax Credit Property) 6802 Old Greensboro Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-366-9500



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Long-Term Care

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Ombudsman is a Swedish term for a person who acts as an impartial third party in mediating problems. In short, an Ombudsman is a go-between.

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman is available to assist residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities with their concerns. The Ombudsman thoroughly investigates and attempts to resolve complaints received. All complaints are kept confidential and information is disclosed only under the direction of the person being assisted. The Ombudsman is trained and certified by the Alabama Department of Senior Services according to standards set out in the Alabama Long-Term Residential Health Care Recipient Ombudsman Act.

The Ombudsman works with interested citizens, providers of long-term care, and other professional groups to promote the well-being and quality of life for residents of long-term care facilities. This program is a part of Alabama's continuing effort to improve conditions for and services to the elderly.

An Ombudsman can assist residents by:

- · Providing information about long-term care options
- · Providing education about resident rights
- · Investigating complaints concerning residents
- · Making suggestions to family members and long-term care facilities about ways to improve quality of life for residents
- · Making referrals to other agencies and organizations whose services may be of benefit to residents

An Ombudsman works with facilities by:

 Performing in-service training to educate facility staff on topics related to the care of residents



· Assisting the facility staff in explaining to residents and family members their responsibilities to the facility and to the other residents

Ombudsman services are available to:

- · Residents in long-term care facilities who have questions or problems about care, resident rights, Medicaid or Medicare payments or benefits and entitlements, etc.
- Relatives or friends of a resident in a long-term care facility who have questions or wish to discuss problems
- · Long-term care facilities who need assistance with a resident, their care or benefits, or with a problem associated with a resident's continued stay at the facility

For more information or to make a complaint contact:

- West Alabama's Long-Term Care Ombudsman 4200 Hwy. 69 N Ste. 1 Northport AL 35473 205-333-2990 or 800-243-5463
- Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Alabama Department of Senior Services 201 Monroe St. Ste. 350 Montgomery, AL 36130 334-242-5753

- Alabama Department of Public Health Health Care Division: 1-800-356-9596
 Contact if you believe a resident is being abused
 or neglected at a facility by a member of the
 facility staff.
- Department of Human Resources (DHR):
 Contact in the county that the resident lives (see page 32). Report concerns to DHR if the person responsible for the abuse or neglect is a family member or a person not employed by the facility.

The Continuum of Care

For some, there may come a time when adaptation to their living environment or hands-on care is needed to make living independently easier or even possible. Later, they may need more care and at some point may no longer be able to safely live independently. This progression is called the "Continuum of Care," which usually follows the least restrictive environment to the most restrictive. Following is information on the common progression along life's continuum of care:

Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation (AQAF)

AQAF is a non-profit company that contracts with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to serve as Alabama's Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO). As Alabama's QIO, AQAF works in partnership with health care professionals and organizations, government, business and consumers to improve the quality of health care for Alabama's more than 968,000 Medicare beneficiaries.

AQAF collaborates with those health care providers to examine their practices and improve their systems of providing care. AQAF provides free education based on the proven best practices to help ensure that care is safe, effective, timely, patient-centered, efficient and equitable.

AQAF protects the right of each Alabama Medicare beneficiary to receive quality health care that meets medically acceptable standards, is medically necessary, and is delivered in the most appropriate setting.

Every Medicare beneficiary in Alabama has the right to file a complaint about the quality of medical care that he or she receives. You may call AQAF directly and leave your name, Medicare number and call back information in your message.

As a contractor with the CMS, AQAF follows federal regulations and guidelines. It obtains the beneficiary's medical records, determines whether services met medically acceptable standards, were medically necessary, and were delivered in the most appropriate setting. When a quality problem is identified, AQAF delivers education and feedback to the health care providers to improve the quality of services they provide.

If you have any questions about your rights as a Medicare beneficiary, want to request an appeal for discharges from a hospital, skilled nursing facility, hospice, home health care agency, or a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility, or you want more information about AQAF's work as Alabama's Medicare QIO, you can call AQAF's at 1-205-970-1600 or e-mail them at askaqaf@aqaf.com. For more information visit their website at www.aqaf.com.

Paying For Long-Term Care

Adapted from an article by Clayton Davis, Attorney at Law

Because long-term care can be very expensive, finding accurate information about all possible sources of help is essential.

The first step should be to gather information about all assets, sources of income and health insurance coverage for both you and your spouse. Locate the VA service number if you or your spouse ever served in the military. Reviewing your latest income tax return will help prevent overlooking any assets or incomes.

Medicare Coverage

Many people are surprised Medicare has such limited coverage for nursing home cost. At most, Medicare covers 100 days in the nursing home. You must have been admitted to the nursing home within 30 days of discharge from a Medicare covered inpatient hospital stay of at least three days. Furthermore, you must receive skilled nursing or other medical professional care. Medicare will

Forest Manor Inc. (205) 339-5400 forestmanorinc.com



2215 32nd Street Northport, AL 35476



not cover expenses if you require only custodial services regardless of your condition. Continued eligibility is dependent on your continued rehabilitation progress.

Medicare rules are extremely complicated, but nursing home staff can usually explain how they relate to your situation. Medicare Part A pays all the cost, including prescriptions, for the first 20 days of covered skilled care. If you continue to receive skilled care during the next 80 days, Medicare will continue to pay, but a \$164.50 (2017) per day co-payment is required from you or your other coverage.

Co-payment Coverage

All your Medicare co-payments will be covered if you have Medicaid, QMB, TRICARE for Life, or Medicare supplement standard plans C, D, F, G, M or N. Plan K covers 50 percent of co-payments, and Plan L covers 75 percent. Standard Plan B's (such as Blue Cross C+) do not cover any of these co-payments. Civil service retirees usually have coverage for at least 10 days of co-payments.

Skilled Care Beyond 100 Days

If you need skilled care beyond 100 days and have TRICARE for Life, it will pay 75 percent of your nursing home cost for as long as you receive skilled care. You or your spouse may have a union or company plan that provides some coverage, but this is rare.

What if I Need Only Assisted Living or Home Care?

None of the sources previously listed will cover the cost of assisted living or home

care. Services of nurses provided by a hospice or home health company are covered by Medicare. Twenty-four-hour home care or assisted living is not covered.

Long-Term Care Insurance

Long-term care insurance may provide peace of mind that you will be cared for when you can no longer care for yourself. You should speak to several insurance companies to learn more about available options. Policies may cover one or a combination of nursing home, assisted living, or home care. You must choose the length of coverage, which may be unlimited or limited to a number of years or a cap on the amount of money expended by the insurance company.

Another option increases annually the amount paid per day or per month. Before purchasing a long-term care policy, you should ask what you must do to receive payments and how long it takes. When purchasing a policy you should consider all of these issues as well as your ability to pay. Your goal should be to acquire a policy that will pay at least the difference between your income and the cost of your long-term care. (For more information, call National Association of Insurance Commissioners to request "A Shopper's Guide to Long-Term Care Insurance" by calling 1-816-783-8300 and selecting (5) for publications.)

What If I Have Long-term Care Insurance?

If you will soon need assisted living, nursing home, or paid home care, you or a family member should read your policy carefully to determine the coverage provided. If you have an older policy, be certain it does not require an inpatient hospital stay before it begins to cover your long-term care. Notify your insurance company as soon as possible when you need care.

VA Benefits

Veterans and their widows or widowers who have significant expenses for assisted living, nursing home, or home care are usually eligible for VA benefits if the veteran served during an official "war time" period. To qualify for VA Aid

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and Attendance, housebound, or pension, total assets excluding the home must generally be less than \$80,000. The asset limit may be less if the VA determines based on your age and medical condition that your assets will likely not be depleted before your death. Current VA rules do not penalize veterans who have transferred assets to come below the asset limits. "Aid and Attendance" is not available to spouses of living veterans in need of long-term care, but a veteran who is over 65 may qualify for a VA pension amount at a lower monthly amount if his or her spouse has enough medical and care costs. The VA determines the benefit by first subtracting all medical and long-term care expenses from the total income of the veteran and his or her spouse to determine countable income. If the veteran or widow needs nursing home care or aid and attendance at home or in assisted living, the countable income is then subtracted from the current maximum monthly aid and attendance benefit rates for a single veteran, married veteran or a veteran's widow or widower. If the veteran does not himself or herself need aid and attendance care, the countable income is subtracted from the current maximum monthly pension benefits rate for a single veteran, married veteran, or veteran's widow. Benefits will be higher if the veteran has more than one dependent. If you qualify for nursing home Medicaid and are not married and have no dependents, the benefit check will be reduced to \$90 per month.

If you believe you may be eligible for VA benefits, contact the local office of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs (see page 33).

BE ALERT FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES IN ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR VA BENEFITS: On January 23, 2015, the VA published proposed regulations that would drastically restrict eligibility for these benefits. Among the many proposed changes are the following: The asset limit would be set at the maximum resources limit for nursing home Medicaid for married persons, but the countable income of the couple would be added to assets to determine countable assets; the home would continue to be excluded for all veterans even if no one lives in the home, but the homestead would for the first time be limited to two acres; and also for the first time, a three-year look back period

would be used to determine what the veteran had given away, which could result in disqualification for up to ten years depending on the amount of the uncompensated transfer.

Medicaid

If your retirement income plus any VA benefits, health insurance, and long-term care insurance falls short of paying for your nursing home and other expenses, you should determine whether you qualify for Medicaid.

In Alabama, an unmarried person is allowed one vehicle, a general exclusion of \$2,000, a burial exclusion of \$5,000, and prepaid space items such as casket, vault, plot, and the opening and closing of the grave. Your home may be excluded if a sibling is a joint owner and lives in your home, your child lives in your home who is under age 19, is disabled, or has provided care for you for the past two years that prevented you from being admitted to a nursing home. If you can exclude your home under one of these circumstances, you may transfer ownership of your home to that child or sibling without a Medicaid penalty or waiting period. This should be done prior to applying for Medicaid and giving a property lien to Medicaid.

If you are married or separated, you receive all the exclusions listed above. In addition, your spouse receives another \$5,000 burial exclusion and the space items exclusion. Some assets may also be kept by your spouse. If your spouse resides in the home, the home and adjoining property (without limitation) are excluded. Further exclusion of assets vary based on what is owned when you are admitted to a nursing home or the date of an earlier hospital admission. Your spouse's additional exclusion is one-half your combined, non-excluded assets, but never less than \$25,000 nor more than \$119,220 (2017 limits). This maximum amount increases each January.

Note that, regardless of your marital status, a life estate in real estate is given no value. If you have the additional right to cut timber or take minerals, however, the value must be counted. IRA's and the cash surrender value of life insurance also count.

You should be aware of several myths about Medicaid. It is NOT true that only assets in your

spouse's name do not count. Prenuptial agreements have no affect on exclusions. It is also NOT true that a couple must spend down to \$2,000 before one of them can become eligible for Medicaid.

Medicaid imposes a waiting period when assets have been transferred, sold for less than full value, or you cannot account for them. Beginning with February 8, 2011, the "look back" period will be five years. Prior to that date, simply add all transfers beginning with February 8, 2006. Divide the total by \$5800 (2017). The result of the division is the number of months of the waiting period, which begins only after you are admitted to the nursing home, and have applied and determined eligible for Nursing Home Medicaid. Giving away, selling for less than full value, or failing to account for assets may result in Medicaid denial based on these transfer rules.

Withdrawals of cash for spending for which you do not have receipts may also result in transfer penalties.

Paying for sitters at home may be penalized even if they are not paid in cash. Alabama Medicaid now requires that you have a written contract with each sitter (unless the sitter is employed with a company with which you have a contract) and that the sitter keep daily detailed records of all services provided and sign a receipt for each payment received. A detailed written plan of care must be signed by a physician. Do not pay for sitters when you are already in a nursing home with your or your spouse's money, even if the nursing home demands that you do so. Alabama Medicaid now has a rule stating that paying for sitters while you are in a nursing home will result in a penalty even if you meet all the other requirements for care plans, contracts, receipts and daily records of care.

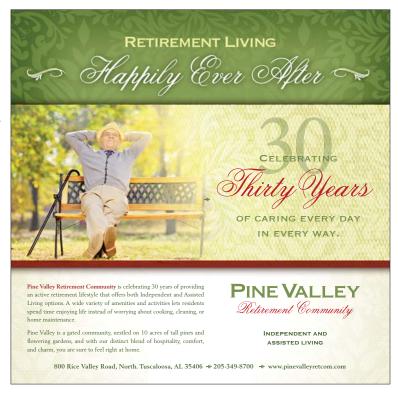
Professional help may be needed to help navigate the complicated nursing home Medicaid rules, particularly for married persons having more than a home, vehicle, burial arrangements or burial money and \$27,000.

For nursing home Medicaid, the monthly income limit is \$2,205 (2017). If your separate gross income before deductions exceeds this limit, you should contact the local Medicaid office and request a Medicaid Qualifying Income Trust (QIT) form. Follow the instructions to set up a QIT checking account, into which only your monthly

income should be deposited.

An unmarried person who is nursing home Medicaid approved must still pay most of his or her income toward the nursing home bill. A \$30 personal needs allowance (and an additional \$90 if receiving VA aid and attendance benefits) and any health insurance premiums are allowable deductions. Your spouse may choose to keep his or her entire income or claim an additional deduction from your income to bring his or her income up to \$2,003 (2017) per month. The spousal limit may increase in July each year.

For more information, contact Legal Counsel for the Elderly at 205-348-4960 or www.uaelderlaw.org or your local Alabama Medicaid office at 205-391-6760.



Long-Term Care Facilities

Assisted Living

Fayette County

Morningview Estates

404 25th St. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-4003 38 Beds

Tuscaloosa County

Brookdale Place

951 Rose Dr. Northport, AL 35476 205-206-7933 83 beds / 16 beds (Specialty Care)

Crimson Village

1410 18th Ave.Tuscaloosa, AL 35404205-632-669978 Beds / 32 Beds (Specialty Care)

Daffodil House

12650 Old Marion Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-342-0573 3 beds

Hallmark Manor

515 Roger Sayers Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-347-0028 13 beds

Hamrick Highlands

755 55th Pl. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-469-1828 36 beds

Heritage Village

1101 Snows Mill Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-349-1011 15 beds

Martinview East and West

2015 32nd St. Northport, AL 35476 205-333-0085 16 beds / 16 beds (Specialty Care)

Morning Pointe

1801 Rice Mine Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-345-1112 36 beds / 24 beds (Specialty Care)

North River Village

5810 Rice Mine Rd. NE Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-759-9875 80 beds

Pine Valley

800 Rice Valley Rd. N Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-349-8700 16 beds

Regency Retirement

5001 Old Montgomery Hwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-752-5500 80 beds / 26 beds (Specialty Care)

The Woodlands

8071 Kimbrell Cutoff Rd. McCalla, AL 35111 205-776-4663 52 Beds

Traditions Way

515 Rogers Sayers Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-347-0028 16 beds (Specialty Care)

Nursing Homes

Bibb County

Bibb Medical Center Nursing Home

208 Pierson Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-3308 131 beds

Fayette County

Fayette Medical Center

1653 Temple Ave. N. Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-5966 122 Beds

Greene County

Greene County Residential Care

509 Wilson Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-4545 72 Beds

Hale County

Colonial Haven

616 Armory St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-3054 97 Beds

Moundville Health & Rehabilitation Center

121 Union St. Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-2252 68 Beds

Lamar County

Generations of Vernon 1050 Convalescent Rd. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9313

158 Beds

Pickens County

Aliceville Manor **Nursing Home** 703 17th NW Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-6307 100 Beds

Arbor Woods Health & Rehab 512 2nd Ave. Reform, AL 35481 205-375-6379 85 Beds

Tuscaloosa County

Aspire Physical Recovery Center of West Alabama, LLC 2400 Hospital Dr.

Northport, AL 35476 205-333-2321 75 Beds

Forest Manor Health & Rehabilitation

2215 32nd St. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-5400 182 Beds

Glen Haven Health & Rehabilitation 2201 32nd St. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-5700 200 Beds

Heritage Health Care & Rehab

1101 Snows Mill Ave. Northport, AL 35476 205-759-5179 216 Beds

Hunter Creek Health & Rehab

600 McFarland Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-5900

78 Beds

Park Manor

2201 McFarland Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-5300 152 Beds

USCALOOSA DRUG CO.

"Three Locations to Better Serve You"

CAPSTONE LOCATION

1236 McFarland Blvd NE Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 Phone (205) 469-9669 Fax (205) 469-9414

5 POINTS LOCATION

4301 Veterans Mem. Pkwy Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 Phone (205) 248-2220 Fax (205) 248-7263

NORTH LOCATION

13620 Hwy 43N Ste. A Northport, AL 35475 Phone (205) 409-6410 Fax (205) 409-6413

Preferred pharmacy of The University of Alabama Athletics





Find Out if You're an "Inpatient" or an "Outpatient" – It Affects What You Pay

Your hospital status whether you're an
inpatient or an outpatient affects how much you pay
for hospital services (like
X-rays, medications, and lab
tests) and may also affect
whether Medicare will cover

care you get in a skilled nursing facility (SNF) following your hospital stay.

You're an inpatient starting when you're formally admitted to the hospital with a doctor's order. The day before you're discharged is your last inpatient day.

You're an outpatient if you're getting emergency department services, observation services, outpatient surgery, lab tests, or X-rays, or any other hospital services, and the doctor hasn't written an order to admit you to a hospital as an inpatient. In these cases, you're an outpatient even if you spend the night in the hospital.

The decision for inpatient hospital admission is a complex medical decision based on your doctor's judgment and your need for medically necessary hospital care. An inpatient admission is generally appropriate when you're expected to need two or more overnight stays of medically necessary hospital care, but your doctor must order such admission and the hospital must formally admit you in order for you to become an inpatient.

Note:

The copayment for a single outpatient hospital service can't be more than the inpatient hospital deductible. However, your total copayment for all outpatient services may be more than the inpatient hospital deductible.

Note:

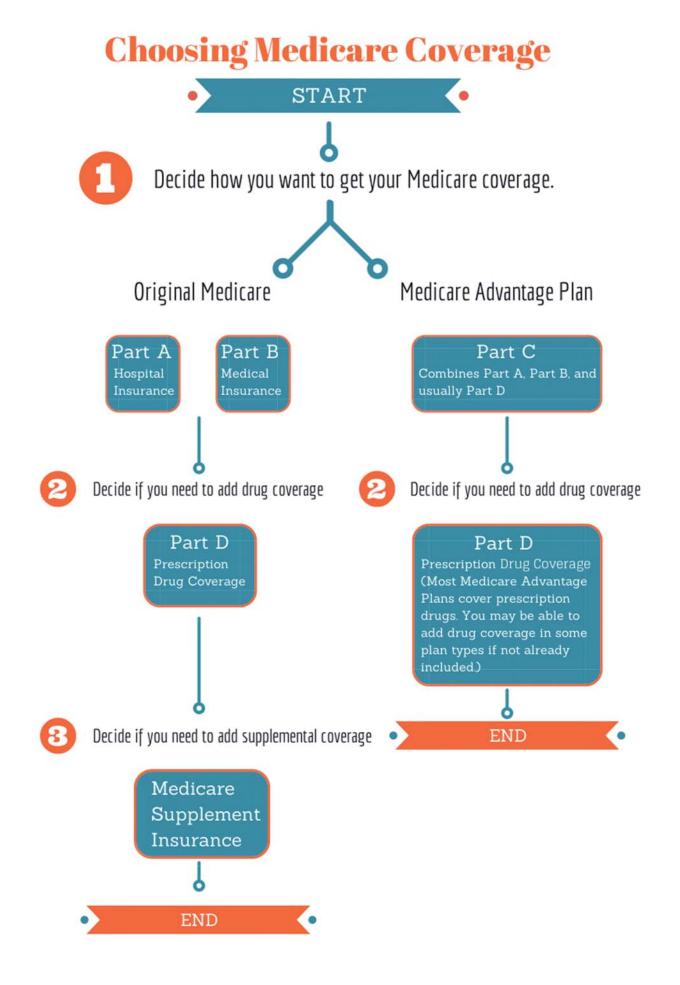
Remember, even if you stay overnight in a regular hospital bed, you might be an outpatient.

Ask the doctor or hospital.

Note:

Observation services are hospital outpatient services you get while your doctor decides whether to admit you as an inpatient or discharge you. You can get observation services in the emergency department or another area of the hospital.

Source: www.medicare.gov



Medicare

Medicare is a federal health insurance program for U.S. citizens and legal residents. Medicare is for persons 65 and older as well as those under 65 with a qualifying disability (after a 24 month waiting period). Medicare typically pays 80% for health care, but does not cover all medical expenses (dental, for example, is an excluded service), nor does it cover the cost of long-term care. You apply for Medicare at Social Security, but questions about coverage should be directed to 1-800-MEDICARE or SHIP, State Health Insurance and Assistance Program, at the Area Agency on Aging, 205-333-2990 or 1-800-AGELINE.

Medicare Has Four Parts:

- 1. Part A: Hospital insurance that helps pay for inpatient care in a hospital or skilled nursing facility for rehab (following a hospital stay), some home health care and hospice. Typically premium is free if you have enough credits paid into Social Security, if not, one can purchase Part A.
- **2. Part B:** Medical insurance that helps pay for doctors' services, other medical services and supplies that are not covered by hospital insurance. There is a monthly premium for all who enroll.
- **Together Medicare A and B pay for 80% of health care costs
- 3. Part C (Medicare Advantage): An optional way to get your healthcare through a provider organization based on plans available that serve the area in which you live. One must have Medicare A and B to enroll in Medicare Advantage. Plans are available in PPO (Preferred Provider Organization), HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) and SNP (Special Needs Plans). Additional premiums may apply.
- **4. Part D:** Prescription drug coverage that helps pay for medications that doctors prescribe

for treatment. There is a monthly premium for all who enroll plus co-insurance costs.

When Can You First Enroll In Medicare?

You can sign up for Medicare during designated enrollment periods. Each has a specific purpose.

*Initial Enrollment Period (IEP)

This is when you are first eligible to enroll in Medicare. Your age eligibility for Medicare and the timing of your IEP are based on the date of your 65th birthday. If you become eligible due to disability, then your IEP timing is based on your disability date.

*General Enrollment Period (GEP)

This is a set period of time for people who did not enroll during their IEP. It runs from January 1-March 31 of every year. If you enroll during the GEP, your Medicare will be effective July 1 of that year.

*Special Enrollment Period (SEP)

You must meet certain requirements to qualify for a SEP; the timing is based on the specific situation. This is for people who are unable to enroll during their IEP or who choose not to. A common reason for delaying enrolling in Medicare Part B is for those who have been continuously covered by a group health plan based on full time employment. This situation would open a Special Enrollment Period for Medicare.

Under Medicare law, a Special Enrollment Period (SEP) allows you to enroll in Medicare Part B outside of your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) and the General Enrollment Period (GEP).

You may be automatically enrolled in Original Medicare Parts A and B when you turn 65. This happens if you are already getting benefits from Social Security or the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB). If you are automatically enrolled, you will receive your Medicare card three months before your 65th birthday. If you

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are not receiving Social Security or RRB benefits when you turn 65, then you will need to contact the Social Security Administration to enroll in Medicare.

When Can You Make Changes to Medicare?

You have the chance to change your Medicare coverage once a year, if needed. It's a good idea to review your plan every year to make sure that you always have coverage that fits your needs at the greatest savings to you. Here is a



SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP)

teaches seniors to protect their healthcare.

If you need assistance or would like to be trained as an SMP volunteer,

CONTACT

or 1-800-243-5463

www.alabamasmp.gov

brief description of the three time periods when you can change your Medicare coverage.

1. Medicare Open Enrollment Period

This is when you can make new Medicare choices to better meet your needs in the coming year. It occurs every year from October 15-December 7.

2. Special Enrollment Period

This is provided so that you can change your coverage outside of Medicare's Open Enrollment Period under certain circumstances. You must meet certain requirements to qualify for a SEP. Examples include; moving out of coverage area, qualifying for extra help programs, have access to group coverage based on full time employment, and more.

3. Medicare Advantage Disenrollment Period

This is provided to allow you to drop your Medicare Advantage plan and return to Original Medicare. It occurs every year from January 1-February 14. If your Medicare Advantage plan includes drug coverage, then you can also enroll in a stand alone prescription drug plan at this time.



Alabama State Health Insurance Assistance Program

Contact SHIP at 1-800-AGELINE or 205-333-2990

Help with the Costs of Medicare's Premiums

There are two different agencies that may assist someone in qualifying to receive assistance with costs associated with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage

- <u>The Alabama Medicaid Agency</u> administers the Medicare Savings Programs (<u>MSP</u>) that is available to help persons whose incomes fall between 101-135% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Contact 205-391-6760 (Medicaid) or SHIP at 205-333-2990 for assistance.
- The Social Security Administration (SSA) is responsible for deeming persons eligible for Low Income Subsidy (LIS) also referred to as "extra help" for those whose incomes are up to 150% of the Federal Poverty Level. Contact 1-800-772-1213/ (SSA local number) 1-877-480-4988/www.ssa.gov or SHIP at 205-333-2990 for assistance.

Medicare Savings Programs (QMB, SLMB, QI-1) - Medicaid

- May also be referred to as MSP. There are three different programs (QMB/SLMB/QI-1). In the state of Alabama, the only qualifying factor is monthly income. Resources do not count. Some states factor in resources but Alabama does not. These programs are designed to help people whose incomes are just above the 100% FPL limit, yet are less than 135% of the FPL. (Those on SSI are considered at 100% of the FPL).
- QMB (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary) Makes agreements with providers that accept
 Medicaid so the beneficiary does not have to pay the Medicare coinsurance, which is the 20
 percent that Medicare does not pay, Part A & B deductibles, Part B monthly premium and
 more.
- SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary) -Pays Medicare Part B monthly premium.
- QI-1 (Qualified Individual)-SLOTS MAY BE LIMITED Pays Medicare Part B monthly premium.
- If you are awarded a Medicare Savings Program you automatically qualify for "extra help" in paying for Medicare Part D premiums and deductibles.

Low Income Subsidy/Extra Help (LIS) - Social Security Administration

Low-income subsidy, also referred to as Extra Help, is determined by the <u>Social Security</u>
 <u>Administration</u>. The only benefit of LIS through Social Security is help with Medicare Part D, prescription drugs; no other health care coverage is included. The LIS table ranges from 100% of the FPL to 150% of the FPL. Monthly income is not the only determining factor for eligibility; LIS also sets a resource limit in determining eligibility.

Alabama Medicaid

The Alabama Medicaid Agency certifies individuals for the following programs:

Pregnant Women and Children Program

Pregnant women and children under age 19 in families who have income below certain limits may be eligible for Medicaid.

Medicaid for Low-Income Families Program

Households with related children under age 19 living in the home may be eligible for Medicaid if the household has very low income. Applications for the Pregnant Women and Children Program, and the Medicaid for Low-Income Families Program should be made by contacting a Medicaid eligibility worker at your local county Health Department. Contact Medicaid at 1-800-362-1504 for more information.

Breast and Cervical Cancer Program

Women under age 65 who have been screened through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program may be eligible for this program. Call 1-877-252-3324 for more information.

Nursing Home Program

Medicaid may pay for the cost of nursing home care for individuals meeting certain income, resource, age or disability and medical criteria. Nursing homes and hospitals usually have Medicaid applications, contact the Medicaid District Office at 205-391-6760 for more information.

Hospital Program

Medicaid may cover the cost of care for individuals who meet certain income, resource, age or disability and medical criteria. To qualify, the individual must be institutionalized for 30 consecutive days. Contact the Medicaid District Office at 205-391-6760 for more information.

Post Hospital Extended Care (PEC) Program

Individuals who are hospitalized and are awaiting placement in a nursing home may be eligible for Medicaid. These individuals must be institutionalized for at least 30 consecutive days. Contact the Medicaid District Office at 205-391-6760 for more information.

Living At Home Waiver Program

Individuals age 3 and above, who are diagnosed as mentally retarded or with related conditions may apply for this waiver. These individuals would receive Medicaid coverage in the community and not be placed in an institution. Limited funds are available for this waiver. Contact the Division of Intellectual Disabilities at 1-800-361-4491 for more information.

Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Waiver Program

Individuals who are disabled or elderly and are ineligible for SSI because of income of a spouse or a parent may apply for this program. The agency will determine if a slot is available and if the individual meets medical criteria for this waiver. The Medicaid district office will make final eligibility determination. The funds available for this waiver are limited.

Contact the Area Agency on Aging at 205-333-2990 or 1-800-243-5463 for more information.

HIV/AIDS Waiver Program

The waiver serves individuals 21 years of age or older with a primary diagnosis of HIV/ AIDS. It provides in home assistance to help clients remain in their home in a safe and sanitary environment. Contact the Area Agency on Aging at 205-333-2990 or 1-800-243-5463 for more information.

State of Alabama Independent Living Waiver (SAIL)

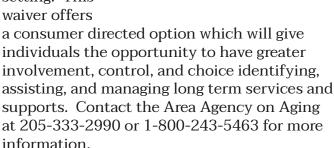
Provides services to disabled adults with specific medical diagnoses. Contact the Department of Rehabilitation Services at 205-554-1300 for more information.

Technology Assisted (TA) Waiver for Adults

The waiver serves individuals with a trachea or who are ventilator dependent. It provides in home services, including private duty nursing, to clients on a regular basis. This waiver also serves individuals who were receiving private duty nursing through the EPSDT program but aged out at 21 years old and private duty nursing continues to be medically necessary. Contact the Area Agency on Aging at 205-333-2990 or 1-800-243-5463 for more information.

Alabama **Community Transition** Waiver (ACT)

The waiver serves individuals with disabilities or long-term care illnesses who currently reside in an institution and who desire to transition to the home or community setting. This waiver offers



Programs Related to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Eligibility

Disabled Adult Child Program

An individual may be eligible to continue Medicaid coverage if Supplemental Security Income (SSI) stopped after he or she attained

the age of 18 because he or she began receiving benefits as a Disabled Adult Child, or if SSI stopped as a result of an increase in Social Security benefits as a Disabled Adult Child. Contact the Medicaid District Office serving your county of residence to apply for this program.

Retroactive SSI Medicaid Program

An individual who has incurred medical expenses during the two-month period prior to receipt of their first SSI check may be eligible for Medicaid coverage during those months. A

person has six months after being awarded SSI to apply SSI Medicaid. Contact the Medicaid District Office serving your county of residence to apply for this program.





Individuals who become ineligible for SSI as a result of Social Security cost-of-living increases may be eligible for Medicaid. Any person who received a SSI check and was entitled to Social Security in the same month may be eligible, if the deduction of Social Security cost-of-living increases from the date of SSI termination would make the individual eligible for SSI. Contact the Medicaid District Office serving your county of residence to apply for this program.

Widows or Widowers Program

In some instances, it is possible for widows or widowers who are not eligible for Medicare to continue Medicaid eligibility. The



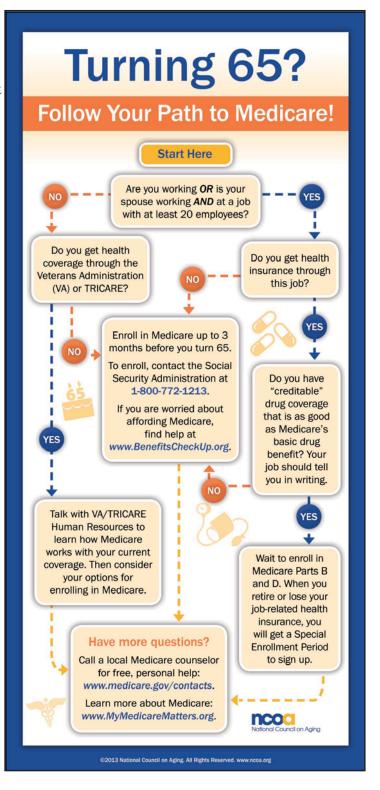
widow/widower must be over the age of 50 but not yet 65. He or she must have lost SSI eligibility because his or her Social Security benefits increased above the SSI limit when his or her spouse died. Contact the Medicaid District Office serving your county of residence to apply for this program.

NOTE: You cannot have Medicare and be eligible for this program.

Medicaid Transportation Assistance

The Non-Emergency Transportation Program is non-emergency transportation for medical treatment for "full" Medicaid recipients only. This does not include those only on QMB, SLMB, or QI-1 Medicaid Assistance. Medicaid provides an EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) card which can be used to help compensate for the cost of hiring someone to transport the person to the doctor's office, other medical care, or treatment facilities. To request this assistance, call 1-800-362-1504 or 334-702-3102.





Our Family Caring For Yours

Health Clinics & Organizations

Health Organizations

Alabama Dept. of Rehabilitation Services

1305 James I Harrison Jr. Pkwy. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-554-1300 www.rehab.alabama.gov

Alabama Eye Bank

500 Robert Jemison Rd. Birmingham, AL 35209 205-942-2120 or 800-423-7811 www.alabamaeyebank.org

Alabama Head Injury Foundation

3100 Lorna Rd. Ste. 203 Hoover, AL 35216 205-823-3818 or 800-433-8002 www.ahif.org

Alabama Organ Center

502 20th St. S Birmingham, AL 35233 800-252-3677 or 205-731-9200 www.alabamaorgancenter.org

American Cancer Society

1100 Ireland Way Ste. 201 Birmingham, AL 35205 800-227-2345 or 205-879-2242 www.cancer.org

American Heart & Stroke Association

1449 Medical Pk. Dr. Birmingham, AL 355213 205-510-1500 www.heart.org/HEARTORG www.strokeassociation.org/ STROKEORG

American Kidney Fund

866-300-2900 www.kidneyfund.org

American Red Cross - Bibb

195 Hospital Dr. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-5702 www.redcross.org

American Red Cross - Hale

988 Church St. Greensboro, AL 36744 205-523-3930

American Red Cross -Fayette & Lamar

601 Columbus Ave. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9573

American Red Cross -Tuscaloosa

1622 Lurleen Wallace Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-758-3608

Arthritis Foundation, Alabama Chapter

500 Office Pk. Dr. Ste. 200 Birmingham, AL 35223 800-879-7896 or 205-979-5700 www.arthritis.org/alabama

Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America

800-727-8462 www.aafa.org

Breast & Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program of Alabama 877-252-3324

www.adph.org/earlydetection

Cancer Information Service

800-422-6237 www.cancer.gov

Cancer Survivors Network

877-333-4673 www.csn.cancer.org

DCH Diabetes & Nutrition Education Center

DCH Annex 600 Bryant Dr. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-750-5260

Easter Seals West Alabama

1110 Dr. Edward Hillard Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-1211 www.eswaweb.org

National Kidney Foundation Serving Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi

270 Peachtree St. Ste. 1040 Atlanta, GA 30303 800-633-2339 www.kidney.org/offices/nkfserving-alabama-georgia-andmississippi

Tuscaloosa County Diabetes Coalition

2350 Hargrove Rd. E.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
205-554-4534
www.tuscaloosadiabetes.com

United Cerebral Palsy of West Alabama

1100 UCP Pkwy. Northport, AL 35476 205-345-3031 www.ucpwa.org

Kidney Dialysis Assistance

Depending on the availability of funds, limited emergency transportation assistance, and in some cases, emergency utilities assistance may be available. Assistance is provided after all other resources have been

exhausted. Dialysis patients, persons with kidney problems and transplant recipients must meet specific qualifications. If assistance is needed, contact the social worker at your dialysis treatment center.

Kidney Dialysis Clinics

Davita Dialysis Clinic

Fayette County 2450 Temple Ave. N

Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-8500 or 800-424-6589

Greene County

544 Hwy. 43 Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-4000

Pickens County

289 William E Hill Dr. Ste. A Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-1194

Tuscaloosa County

- 2401 Hospital Dr. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-8882
- 805 Old Mill St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-752-6363
- 220 15th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-6004 www.davita.com

Health Clinics for Underinsured

Bibb County

Whatley Health Services West Blocton Health Center 345 Magnolia St. West Blocton, AL 35184 205-938-9508 www.whatleyhealth.org

Greene County

Whatley Health Services 200 Morrow Ave.

Eutaw. AL 35462 205-372-0011 www.whatleyhealth.org

Hale County

Hale County Hospital

508 Green St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-3024 www.halecountyhospital.com

Whatley Health Services

Hale County Health Center 800 Hall St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-7270 www.whatleyhealth.org

Lamar County

Whatley Health Services

Vernon Health Center 230 Hospital Dr. Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-0450 www.whatleyhealth.org

Pickens County

Whatley Health Services

27340 Hwy 86 Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-7135 www.whatleyhealth.org

Tuscaloosa County

Health Insurance Marketplace

800-318-2596 www.healthcare.gov

James O Ellis Health Center

3532 Greensboro Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-752-1087 www.whatleyhealth.org Maude Whatley Health Center

2731 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-3250 www.whatleyhealth.org

Good Samaritan Clinic

3880 Watermelon Rd. Ste. A Northport, AL 35473 205-343-2212 www.gscclinic.org

The University of Alabama **Health Center**

850 5th Ave. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-348-6262 www.shc.ua.edu

Whatley Health Services

Crescent East Health Center 120B 51st Ave. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-556-6042 www.whatleyhealth.org

(See Also Public Health Departments listed on page 24)

Mental Health Care & Support

Bibb County

Indian Rivers Community Mental Health Center

2439 Main St. Brent, AL 35034 205-926-4681 www.irmhc.org

Fayette County

Northwest Alabama Mental **Health Center**

123 2nd Ave. NW Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-3216 www.nwamhc.com

Greene County

West Alabama Mental Health Center

250 Prairie Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3106 or 800-239-2901 www.wamhc.org

Hale County

West Alabama Mental Health Center

401 1st St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-4905 www.wamhc.org

Pickens County

Indian Rivers Community Mental Health Center

890 Reform St. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8032 www.irmhc.org

Pickens County Medical Center Senior Care

241Robert K Wilson Drive Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-2465 www.pickenscountymedicalcenter. com/seniorcare

Tuscaloosa County

Ability Alliance of West Alabama

1002 McFarland Blvd. Ste. K Northport, AL 35476 205-333-1577 www.abilityalliance.info

Bryce Hospital

1651 Ruby Tyler Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-507-8000 www.mh.alabama.gov

Indian Rivers Community Mental Health Center

2290 9th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-391-3131 www.irmhc.org

Mary S. Harper Geriatric Psychiatry Center

200 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-366-3010

NAMI Tuscaloosa

P.O. Box 20527 Tuscaloosa, AL 35402 205-752-5774 www.namialabama.org

North Harbor Pavilion Northport Medical Center

2700 Hospital Drive Northport, AL 35476 205-330-3000 www.dchsystem.com

Hospitals

Bibb Medical Center

208 Pierson Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-4881 www.bibbmedicalcenter.com

Fayette Medical Center

1653 Temple Ave. N. Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-5966 www.dchsystem.com

Greene County Health System

509 Wilson Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3388 www.gcheutaw.com

Hale County Hospital

508 Green St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-3024 www.halecountyhospital.com

Pickens County Medical Center

241 Robert K. Wilson Dr. Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-8111 www.pickenscountymedicalcenter. com

Tuscaloosa County Hospitals

Bryce Hospital

1651 Ruby Tyler Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-507-8300 www.mh.alabama.gov DCH Regional Medical Center

809 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-759-7111 www.dchsystem.com

Northport Medical Center

2700 Hospital Dr. Northport, AL 35476 205-333-4500 www.dchsystem.com

Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center

3701 Loop Rd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-554-2000 www.tuscaloosa.va.gov

Dental Assistance

Upon retiring, many seniors lose their dental coverage, which makes finding affordable dental care and dentures a priority. Original Medicare does NOT cover routine dental services; yet, Medicare Advantage (Part C) may offer some limited dental coverage. In most cases, dental care is a private pay matter.

To find companies and discount plans that sell individual dental coverage, go to National Association of Dental Plans at www.nadp.org, dentalinsurance.com, or call 1-972-458-6998. Also, contact your health insurance company to inquire about separate dental plans they may offer.

Low Cost & Discounted Dental Services

Affordable Dentures - Dr. Kevin D. Hancock 1516 Skyland Blvd. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-286-2749 or 1-800-DENTURE www.affordabledentures.com

Good Samaritan Clinic

3880 Watermelon Rd. Ste. A Northport, AL 35473 205-343-2212 www.gscclinic.org

Hale County Dental Center

602 Centerville St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-3342 www.whatleyhealth.org

Hall Family Dentistry - Dr. Mark A Hall

161 12th W Ave. Ste. C Guin, AL 35563 205-468-3339

Theodore R. Hendrix Dental Center

2731 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-6647 www.whatleyhealth.org

UAB School of Dentistry

1919 7th Ave. S. Rm. 406 Birmingham, AL 35233 205-934-2700 www.uab.edu/dentistry/home/become-a-patient

West Alabama Dental Center

149 Skyland Blvd. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-345-8859 www.westalabamadental.com



Located At: 5701 McFarland Blvd, East Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35405



We have beautiful apartments open to those eligible persons 55 years of age and older. Our office is open on Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 4:00pm 205-758-4300

Amenities Include:

- 2 Bedroom / 2 Bath w/ Porch Balconies
- Fully Equipped Kitchen
- Washer/ Dryer hookup
- Spacious Closets
- E. G
- Clubhouse with Business Center
- On Site Management
- All Floors serviced by Elevator



TDD#'s 1-800-548-2547(V) 1-800-548-2546(T/A) *For the deaf and hearing impaired only!*





Hearing Assistance

Hear Now... Providing the Gift of Hearing

Hear Now is a national non-profit program committed to assisting deaf and hard-of-hearing persons with limited financial resources who permanently reside within the United States. The work of Hear Now is supported through the contributions of many benefactors and receives no government funding. All donations -money, time, hearing aids - allow the program to survive and give the gift of hearing domestically. To apply call Starkey Hearing Foundation at 1-800-328-8602 and ask for "Hear Now" or visit www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/hear-now

Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind Tuscaloosa Regional Center (AIDB)

AIDB provides comprehensive service programs for seniors who have a hearing or vision loss. Please call 205-345-2883 for an appointment or for more information.

Services are free and are as follows:

- Adjustment and personal or family counseling for deaf, blind, hard-of-hearing and low-vision clients and their families.
- Loaner telecommunication equipment for qualifying elderly and disabled.
- · Screening and testing provided, on referral, to determine eligibility and needed services.
- · Case management.
- Technology room for trying out devices before purchasing them (amplified phones, magnifiers, special television sets, etc.)
- Smoke Detector program visual smoke detectors for qualified clients who are hearing impaired.
- STAR program Device demonstrations and short term loans of assistive technology.
- Daily living skills training.
- Many other special programs for seniors with hearing or vision loss.

Alabama Institute for Deaf & Blind (AIDB)

Tuscaloosa Regional Center 2412 Skyland Blvd. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-345-2883 www.aidb.org

Alabama Regional Library (For the Blind/Physically Handicapped)

6030 Monticello Dr. Montgomery, AL 36130 800-392-5671 or 800-723-8459

Ascent Audiology & Hearing

1800 N. McFarland Blvd. Ste. 330 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-523-8199 www.ascentaudiologytuscaloosa.com

Beltone

1701 McFarland Blvd. E Ste. 207 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-340-5421 www.beltonaudiology.com

Bibles on Tape or CDs Aurora Ministries

Bradenton, FL 941-748-3031 www.auroraministries.org

Kabel Hearing Center

1800 McFarland Blvd. E Ste. 303 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 888-760-6067 www.kabelhearing.com

Pattillo Balance & Hearing Center

515 Hargrove Rd. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-9351 or 205-409-4717 www.patillohearingtuscaloosa.com

University of Alabama Speech & Hearing Center

700 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-348-7131 www.cd.ua.edu/speech-and-hearingcenter

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (Blind/Deaf Program) and OASIS

1305 James I Harrison Pkwy. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-554-1300 800-441-7607

Eligible veterans should contact the Veterans Administration for hearing services offered.

Vision Assistance

 Alabama Regional Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped 6030 Monticello Dr. Montgomery, AL 36130 1-800-392-5671 or 1-800-723-8459

This organization provides books on tape, tape players, and other accessories (amplifiers, headphones, pillow talker, etc.) for the blind or physically handicapped. Postage is free, both coming and going. A physician's signature is required. Amplifiers require an additional note from the physician.

Free Bibles on Tape

Aurora Ministries (a non-profit, nondenominational agency) provides audio Bibles free to those who are visually impaired or have physical disabilities which impede reading. This service is provided to qualified individuals, organizations, agencies, libraries and health care professionals who work with visually-impaired and print-handicapped individuals who cannot hold a book due to stroke or other disabilities. The complete Bible in English is available in MP3 format. It will play on most computers, DVD and MP3 players, and on most MP3 compatible CD players. The New Testament is available on audio cassettes in nearly 70 languages. The Old Testament or portions of it are available in several languages. For those who qualify, the International Children's Bible is available in a translation designed especially for children.

Eligibility Criteria:

- 1. Vision in better eye is 20/200 or less with corrective glasses, or widest diameter of visual field is no greater than 20 degrees.
- 2. Cannot see well enough or focus long enough to read standard print with glasses.
- 3. Reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction.
- 4. A statement from a doctor, nurse, nursing

home social worker, rehabilitation worker, rehabilitation teacher, or librarian that states the applicant cannot read normal print. For additional information or to request an application, contact Aurora Ministries by calling 941-748-3031 or visit www.auroraministries.org.

Seniors EyeCare Program

The Seniors EyeCare Program ensures that every senior has access to medical eye care and promotes annual, dilated eye exams. It raises awareness about age-related eye disease, including cataracts, provides free eye care, educational materials and facilitates access to eye care - with no out-of-pocket cost.

By age 65, one in three Americans has some form of vision-impairing eye disease. Most do not know it because there are often no warning signs and they assume poor sight is a natural part of growing older. By detecting and treating eye disease early through annual, dilated eye exams, seniors can preserve their sight.

Seniors EyeCare Program serves people who are US citizens or legal residents, are age 65 or older, have not seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years, and are not participants of an HMO or the VA.

People eligible for a referral through the program receive a comprehensive, medical eye exam and up to one year of treatment - at no out-of-pocket cost - for any disease diagnosed during the initial exam. Volunteer ophthalmologists accept Medicare and other insurance reimbursements as payment in full; patients without insurance receive care at no charge.

For help, call the toll-free helpline at 877-887-6327 anytime or visit www.eyecareamerica.org. Call one of EyeCare America's 7,500+ volunteer ophthalmologists nationwide to request free eye care educational materials and to determine if you qualify. EyeCare America offers multiple eye care programs for which individuals may qualify. Callers will automatically be screened to determine the program that provides the most

Medical Services



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www.BryantBank.com 205.464.4646





appropriate eye care services.

Callers who have not had an eye exam in the past 12 months and are at increased risk for glaucoma may be eligible for a glaucoma eye exam through the Glaucoma EyeCare Program. Eyeglasses, prescription drugs, hospital services and the fees of other medical professionals are excluded.

 Older Alabamians System of Information and Services (OASIS) 1305 James I Harrison Pkwy. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services' OASIS Program is dedicated to renewing independent and rewarding lifestyles for Alabama's older adults who have vision problems. OASIS provides low-vision exams and aids, mobility instruction, adaptive equipment, instruction in independent living skills, and evaluation and referrals.

A program of services is designed to meet your personal goals and objectives. Mobility specialists train you to become independent outside the home. OASIS rehabilitation teachers are experienced in helping you learn new or adaptive methods of performing day-to-day activities such as meal preparation, money identification and management, reading adaptations and communication skills.

Services are free and are available regardless of your financial need. If you are 55 years or older and are experiencing visual problems, contact an OASIS service site. In Tuscaloosa call 205-554-1300 or 1-800-441-7607 for more information.

Additional Assistance

Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind

Tuscaloosa Regional Center 2412 Skyland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-345-2883 www.aidb.org

Eligible veterans should contact the Veterans Administration for vision services offered.

Medical Alert Systems

Acadian on Call

1-877-477-6507 www.acadianoncall.com *You can get a discount with a referral through the Area Agency on Aging. Call 1-800-432-5030

ADT

1-800-863-8186 www.adt.com

Alert 1 Medical Alert Systems

866-802-3676 ext. 3418 408-744-3422 www.alert1.com

CVS Medical Alert System

1-800-283-2300 www.medicalalertsystem.com

Life Alert

1-800-360-0329 www.lifealert.com

Life Button

1-855-566-9111 www.lifebutton24.com

LifeWatch USA

1-800-716-1433 www.lifewatch-usa.com

Medical Guardian

1-800-668-9200 www.medicalguardian.com

Pioneer EMA

1-800-274-8274 www.pioneeremergency.com

Phillips Lifeline

1-855-332-7799 www.lifelinesys.com

Medical Supplies

DCH Home Medical Equipment

809 University Blvd. E. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-330-3177 www.dchsystem.com

DME Services, LLC.

3600 5th Ave. S Birmingham, AL 35222 205-591-4792 www.durablemedical equipment.net

Howard Instruments, Inc.

4749 Appletree Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-758-9083 www.howardinstruments.com

Jim Myers Home Care

2008 8th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-556-9760

Med-South, Inc.

400 McFarland Blvd. Ste. G Northport, AL 35476 205-339-8013 www.med-south.com

Norris Limb & Brace

1020 McFarland Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-333-1020 www.norrislimbandbrace.com

Nutritional Parenteral Home Care

500 Paul Bryant Dr. E #B Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-4566

Specialized Medical Devices

518 Paul Bryant Dr. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-6880 www.smdrespiratory.com

YD Home Medical (Fayette)

- 314 2nd Ave. SE
 Fayette, AL 35555
 205-932-5221
 www.yddme.com
- 583 4th Ave.
 York, AL 36925
 205-392-5201
 www.ydme.com

Pharmacies

Bibb County

Curren Pharmacy

22586 AL-216 McCalla, AL 35111 205-477-7797 www.currenpharmacy.com

CVS Pharmacy

Centreville/Brent 155 Birmingham Rd. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-4654 www.cvs.com

J&S Drugs

1130 Walnut St. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-7621

Jacks Discount Pharmacy

23010 AL-5 West Blocton, AL 35184 205-938-9588 www.jacksdiscountpharmacy.com

Mills Pharmacy

4750 Eastern Valley Rd. McCalla, AL 35111 205-477-1007 www.millspharmacy.com

Walmart Pharmacy

10675 AL-5 Brent, AL 35034 205-926-6553 www.walmart.com

Woodstock Drugs

28891 AL-5 Woodstock, AL 35188 205-938-9221 www.healthmart.com

Fayette County

Berry Discount Pharmacy

31 Depot St. Berry, AL 35546 205-689-4777

Bolling Pharmacy

101 Temple Ave. S. Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-4513 www.bollingpharmacy.com

Cannon Apothecary

106 16th St. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-8969

Debbie's Drugs

1716 Temple Ave. N. Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-7455

Fred's Xpress Pharmacy

1128 2nd Ave. NE Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-5400 www.fredsmeds.com

Walmart Pharmacy

3186 Hwy 171 N Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-2737 www.walmart.com

Greene County

Get Well Drug & Dollar

206 Greensboro St. Ste. 1 Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3346 www.getwelldrug.com

York Drug Rx Health Mart Pharmacy

583 4th Ave. York, AL 36925 205-392-5201 www.healthmart.com

Hale County

CVS Pharmacy

675 Tuscaloosa St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-8874 www.cvs.com

Boone's Pharmacy

850 Tuscaloosa St. Greensboro, AL 36744 334-624-7151

Harland Drugs

16061 AL-69 Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-9031

KC Drug

40870 Hwy 69 Ste. D Moundville, AL 35474 205-371-8755 www.kcdrug.co

Lamar County

Durham Pharmacy

44984 AL-17 Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-9611 www.durhampharmacy.com

Family Health Pharmacy

55298 AL-17 Sulligent, AL 35586 205-698-9770 www.mygnp.com

Fred's Pharmacy

9574 AL-18 Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-1195 www.fredsmeds.com

Hospital Pharmacy

170 5th St. SW Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-7911 www.hospitalpharmacyrx.com

86 | Medical Services

Joe Golden Drug

13530 AL-96 Millport, AL 35576 205-662-3817

Pickens County

Carrollton Drugs

25700 AL-17 Carrollton, AL 35447 205-367-2476

CVS Pharmacy

113 3rd St. SE Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-8475 www.cvs.com

CVS Pharmacy

Hwy 82 S. Gordo, AL 35466 205-364-7133 www.cvs.com

Fred's Pharmacy

134 7th Ave. SE Reform, AL 35481 205-375-6401 www.fredsmeds.com

Gentry Drugs

551 Memorial Pkwy. Aliceville, AL 35442 205-373-6688

Tuscaloosa County

CVS Pharmacy

- 808 Veterans Memorial Pkwy. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-0531
- 1901 13th Ave. E
 (Inside Target)
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
 205-556-5731

- · 3302 15th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 205-349-4115
- 1910 McFarland Blvd.
 Northport, AL 35476
 205-339-3819
- 4715 Rice Mine Rd. NE Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-345-3455
- 4260 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-556-3031
- 8700 Hwy 69 S
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
 205-342-1401
- 4280 Mitt Larry Rd.
 Northport, AL 35475
 205-339-0415
- 1218 University Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-349-2660 www.cvs.com

Dunkin's Pharmacy

7700 AL-69 S Ste. A Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-345-4410 www.dutchpharmacy.net/dunkinspharmacy

Kmart Pharmacy

635 Skyland Blvd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-752-3504 www.pharmacy.kmart.com

15th Street Pharmacy

445 15th St. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-345-3180 www.dutchpharmacy.net/15th streetpharmacy

Mills Pharmacy

16114 AL-216 Brookwood, AL 35444 205-556-1600 www.millspharmacy.com

Natural Rx Pharmacy

2801 Lurleen B Wallace Blvd. Ste. 3 Northport, AL 35476 205-339-3993

Northport (Colburn's) Pharmacy

909 McFarland Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-339-5800 www.northportpharmacy.com

Patient Care Pharmacy

1825 McFarland Blvd. N Ste. 2 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-752-2045 www.mypatientcarepharmacy.com

Publix Pharmacy

- 1101 Southview Ln.
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
 205-247-7715
- 2300 McFarland Blvd.
 Northport, AL 35476
 205-339-4232
- 4851 Rice Mine Rd. NE #200
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406
 205-247-7666
- 1190 University Blvd.
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
 205-247-5044

Rite Aid Pharmacy

 Northwood Shopping Center 2300 McFarland Blvd.
 Northport, AL 35476 205-339-2700

- 617 Bear Creek Rd.
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
 205-345-0699
- Meadowbrook Shopping Center 2306 McFarland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 205-345-2660
- Food World Plaza South 4200 McFarland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-759-1103
- 2916 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-0232
- 521 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-4423
- 4201 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-9647
- 3206 15th St.
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
 205-349-1330
 www.riteaid.com

Sams Club Pharmacy

1401 Skyland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-345-2016 www.samsclub.com

The Pharmacy at Midtown

1800 McFarland Blvd. E Ste. 334 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-752-0627 www.pharmacymidtown.com

Tuscaloosa Drug Company

- Capstone
 1236 McFarland Blvd. NE
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406
 205-469-9669
- Five Points
 4301 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
 205-248-2220
- North
 13620 Hwy. 43 N Ste. A
 Northport, AL 35475
 205-409-6410
 www.tuscaloosadrugcompany.com

VA Medical Center Pharmacy

3701 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-554-2000

Walgreens Phamacy

- · Jim Myers Drug 3325 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-556-3800
- 1520 McFarland Blvd. N Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-759-1501
- DCH Towers
 701 University Blvd. E Ste. M04
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
 205-750-0041
- Northport
 3107 Lurleen B Wallace Blvd.
 Northport, AL 35476
 205-333-9343
- Maude Whatley
 2731 MLK Jr Blvd.
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
 205-345-1197

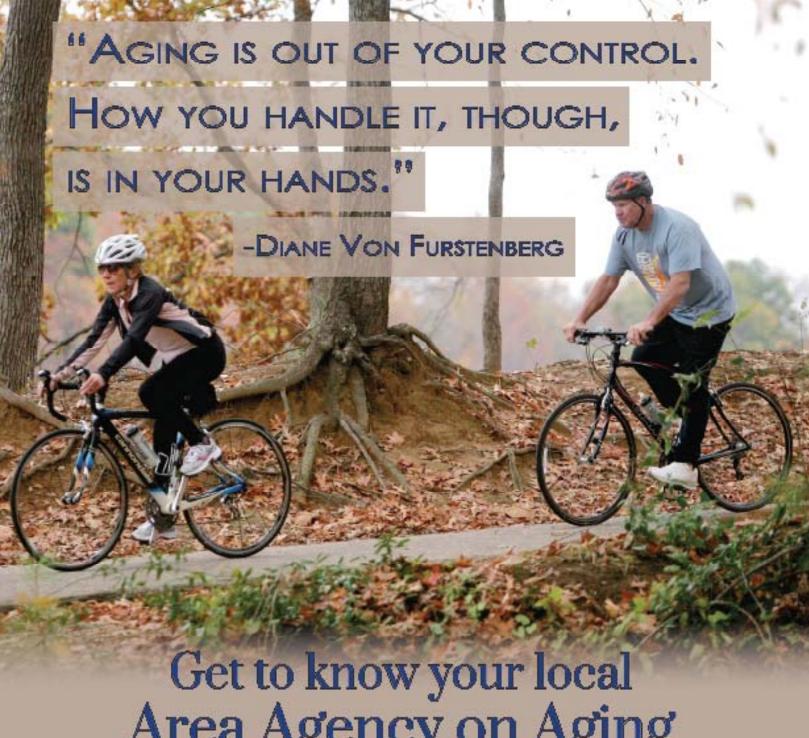
- Taylorville 8701 AL-69 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-758-1684
- Skyland Plaza
 4400 University Blvd. E
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
 205-553-6188
 www.walgreenspharmacy.com

Walmart Pharmacy

- Neighborhood Market 4201 Hargrove Rd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-632-6150
- Neighborhood Market 1660 McFarland Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-861-1262
- 1501 Skyland Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-345-4047
- 5710 McFarland Blvd.
 Northport, AL 35476
 205-333-7873
 www.walmart.com

Winn-Dixie Pharmacy

- 13620 Hwy. 43 N
 Northport, AL 35475
 205-333-0678
- 9750 Hwy. 69 S
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
 205-366-9626
- 4205 University Blvd. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-553-3360
- 10 McFarland Blvd.
 Northport, AL 35476
 205-345-2755
 www.winndixie.com



Area Agency on Aging

The Area Agency on Aging of West Alabama is more than a resource for the elderly population. We are a valuable support center for people at any age needing assistance and information about programs and services that help senior citizens, their families, individuals with disabilities and caregivers.

Visit our office Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 4200 Hwy 69 N Northport, AL 35473

> Call us at 205-333-2990 or 1-800-AGELINE or visit us online at our new website www.westalabamaaging.org

Substance Abuse Assistance

Al Anon Family Groups Hope for Family & Friends of Alcoholics

1-888-4-AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) www.al-anon.alateen.org

A Woman's Place (for women only)

2209 9th St. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-391-3131

Alcohol & Abuse Helpline

2311 21st St. E Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-554-0300

A Reprieve for Women

14332 Hwy 69 S Tuscaloosa, AL 35405 205-409-9042

Bradford Health Services

515 Energy Center Blvd. Northport, AL 35473 205-750-0227 or 800-891-9673 www.bradfordhealth.com

Complete Change Residential Addiction Treatment

2618 8th St. Ste. A Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-210-4979

Pickens County Medical Center One-Eighty Program

241 Robert K. Wilson Dr. Carrollton, AL 35447 1-855-370-0180 www.pickenscountymedicalcenter.com/one-eighty.html

Phoenix House

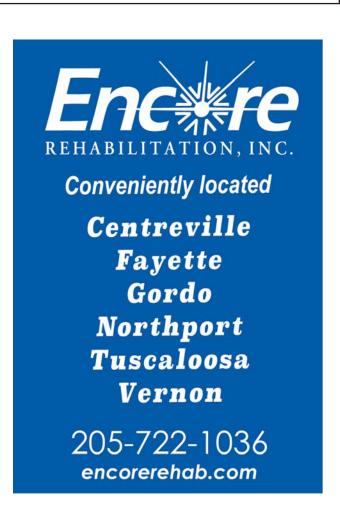
700 35th Ave. Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-3867 www.phoenixhousetuscaloosa.com **Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration**

800-662-4357 www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov

Robert M Colburn, Jr, RPh



Pharmacy: 205.339.5800 Fax: 205.339.5851 Cell: 205.792.5697 909 McFarland Blvd Northport, AL 35476 northportpharmacy@hotmail.com www.northportpharmacy.com



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Physical Therapy

Bibb County

Bibb Medical Center

208 Pierson Ave. Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-3261 www.bibbmedicalcenter.com

Encore Rehabilitation

122 Walnut St. Brent, AL 35034 205-926-5343 www.encorerehab.com

Renew Physical Therapy

10452 Hwy. 5 Ste. D Brent, AL 35034 205-316-9207

Fayette County

Encore Rehabilitation

1793 Temple Ave. N Fayette, AL 35555 205-904-8228 www.encorerehab.com

Fayette Medical Center

1653 Temple Ave. N Fayette, AL 35555 205-932-5966 www.dchsystem.com

Greene County

Greene County Health Systems

509 Wilson Ave. Eutaw, AL 35462 205-372-3388 www.gcheutaw.com

Hale County

Helping Hands Therapy

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Renew Physical Therapy

314 Columbus Ave. NW Vernon, AL 35592 205-695-5111

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Pickens County Medical Center

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 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
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 www.aptorrehabservices.com
- 2509 Lurleen B. Wallace Blvd. Northport, AL 35476 205-333-9885 www.aptorrehabservices.com
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 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
 205-345-4441
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DCH Physical Rehabilitation

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DCH Sports Medicine

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Drayer Physical Therapy Institute

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- 6561 AL-69
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
 205-722-1036
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Innerfit

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Northport Medical Center

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North River Therapy

400 McFarland Blvd. Ste. F Northport, AL 35476 205-333-5351 www.northrivertherapy.com

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www. professionaltherapyservices.net

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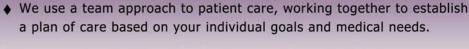
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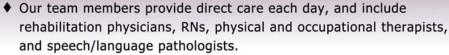
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Planning Ahead: Conservatorship, Guardianship & Power of Attorney

Thanks to a great increase in life expectancy during the 20th century and continuing today, most of us can expect many more years of productive life. The less attractive side of this development is that we can also live to ages at which we will experience some degree of disability. There are simple, inexpensive ways to prepare for the possibility of needing help with business matters and personal care, but unfortunately, many people reach the point of disability with no plan in place.

Making decisions in advance is prudent for oneself and a caring act for loved ones. It may be that the plans made now will not be needed, but it is better to have a plan ready and not need it than to need it and not have it. Do not delay thinking about possible disability "until you need to". When you reach the point of needing help you may not be able to make appropriate plans.

Financial Decisions

If you do not make arrangements for the handling of your business while you are competent, and you later become incapacitated, court proceedings may be necessary to appoint someone to manage your affairs. Having a Conservator appointed can be intrusive and embarrassing. It can also be expensive, entailing court costs, attorney fees and costs of a bond. These expenses come from your estate. A Conservator must go to the court to ask for permission to spend money for you, and each court proceeding means additional expenses. If you have someone in whose integrity and good judgment you trust, this painful process can usually be avoided by executing a Durable

Power of Attorney or a Living Trust, but you must do this while you are competent.

Durable Powers of Attorney

The simplest and least expensive way to plan for management of your business affairs is to execute a Durable Power of Attorney, appointing an agent or "attorney-in-fact" to act for you if you are unable to manage for yourself.

To be durable, that is, to remain valid even if the Principal (person who executed it) becomes incapacitated, the document must include these words, or words to the same effect: "For powers that are to be effective immediately: This power of attorney shall not be affected by the subsequent disability, incompetence or incapacity of the principal."

If the document is a springing power (springs into effectiveness when and if the principal is incapacitated): This power shall become effective upon the incapacity, incompetence or disability of the principal.

Caution

Durable Powers of Attorney are wonderful documents when used appropriately, but their simplicity also makes them easy to misuse. It is critical to choose an agent (called an "attorney-in-fact") who is impeccably honest, has good judgment, and will be sensitive to your preferences. These are not qualities about which you can make a quick judgment. Your agent should be someone you have known well for a long time and who manages his/her own business well. Your agent should consider your needs and wishes first in managing your assets, if that time comes.

Sole vs. Joint Agents

Many businesses prefer and even insist on having one person they can look to for decisions if the principal cannot act. For that reason, it may be best to appoint only one person as the Agent or Attorney-in-Fact), with an alternate appointed in case the first named person is unable to act. If the principal has only one person that (s)he trusts completely, then it is better to appoint that person as sole agent, rather than appoint an alternate who may find the opportunity too tempting, or who may be honest but poor at handling business.

It is possible to appoint joint agents if there are two trustworthy, competent candidates who can work together. It is wise to include some mechanism for prompt resolution of any disagreements if they arise. This is the situation in which third parties do not want to be caught. (Never appoint more than two agents.)

Special Considerations

It is also wise to include in springing powers some trigger that will determine when incapacity occurs. This could be a letter from your treating physician, letters from both your doctor and attorney, or from someone else that you trust.

It is best not to appoint someone whose financial circumstances are less solid than your own. Remember that appointing someone to act for you is not "an honor", but a responsibility. If you have several family members who might think they should be appointed, it may be best for you or your attorney to contact all of them at the time the appointment is made. You can explain that for reasons having nothing to do with affection or esteem, the person you appointed is the one you feel will best be able to carry out this responsibility and that you hope and expect all of the family will cooperate. If there is some sound reason for objecting to the appointment, other family members will

have an opportunity to voice their concerns then, while you are able to consider and address them.

Do not allow yourself to get bogged down in whether you might hurt someone's feelings. Appointing an agent is a business decision, not an expression of affection. Do not appoint the oldest child, or the one with a college degree, or the only male, for those reasons only. Appoint the person who manages his/her own business well and whom you can reasonably expect to do the same for you, and do it willingly.

What should be in the DPOA?

A DPOA should be more than a form: it should meet the particular needs of the person executing it. Three or four pages may suffice for someone whose business matters are simple; ten pages might be inadequate for someone whose financial affairs are more complicated. Even simple DPOAs should include a provision to make bank deposits and write checks; pay, negotiate or compromise debts; collect amounts owed; manage personal and real property; enter any bank deposit box, and other basic management tasks. If an agent is to be able to sell real property, that must be specified in the document. Also, an agent under a power of attorney cannot benefit him/herself unless the authority to do so is spelled out. If a principal owns stocks or bonds, there should be a provision about managing them.

A complete list of all the provisions that should be included in a good durable power of attorney document is beyond the scope of this article. It is enough to say that one or two general paragraphs are not sufficient, and you should seek knowledgeable legal advice to draft a document that is right for your circumstances. If you have an old Durable Power of Attorney, even if it is a good one, you might want to update it to include the new "HIPAA" medical privacy regulations.

A form purchased at an office supply store or borrowed from a friend may meet your

needs, but given the modest cost of having a document tailored for you, it is foolish to risk problems that you might not recognize in a "one-size-fits-all" document.

It is a good idea to check with your bank or other financial institution to be sure the power of attorney form you execute is satisfactory with the bank. Some institutions insist on their own forms. You will also want to clarify that, even if you execute a springing power, you intend the document to remain valid until and unless you revoke it and notify the bank.

Occasionally banks will insist that a power of attorney is "no good" because it was executed several years ago. Problems with banks refusing to accept "springing powers" from years' past are good reasons to avoid springing powers, since this defeats the purpose for executing a Power of Attorney while one is competent. The idea is to avoid problems during a long period of incapacity. It is best to address those issues ahead of time.

Guardianships & Conservatorships

All states have some safety net available for those situations in which no voluntary plans were made. The designated court may appoint a "guardian of the person" and/or a "guardian of the property". Different states have different terms for the two functions. In Alabama. appointment of someone to make personal decisions and supervise living arrangements - the "guardian of the person" - is termed "Guardianship". The process of appointing someone to manage the property of an incapacitated individual is "Conservatorship". Probate Courts usually handle these actions in Alabama. The probate judge can appoint two people to serve the different functions, or one person to serve in both capacities.

Who Starts the Process?

Usually these procedures are initiated by someone close to the incapacitated person. If there is no one to step forward and do so, however, the process can be commenced by a report to the Department of Human Resources that an individual is being neglected, abused or exploited. Pursuant to the Adult Protective Services Act, DHR can investigate and if court action appears to be warranted to prevent abuse, neglect or exploitation of a vulnerable adult, DHR initiates the Guardianship process. In those counties where there is a County Conservator, that person is usually appointed, at least to manage the property. The Adult Protective Services Act is codified at Alabama Code § 38-9-1. This is not a commitment process; in fact a person may not be committed to a mental institution as a result of a protective petition. (The commitment process is only used in those cases in which a person is "a danger to him/herself or others" and the standards for commitment are stringent, as they should be. The Involuntary Commitment Act is found at Alabama Code § 26-52-1.)

Appointing One or Both

Often when a person's ability to take care of him/herself has reached the point that court intervention is sought, it is necessary to appoint both a Guardian and a Conservator. However, it is possible to appoint either a Conservator or a Guardian without appointing the other, though some courts seem reluctant to appoint only a Conservator. This may be out of a desire to avoid future court proceedings and expense if the Ward's mental condition later deteriorates, as often happens.

Nonetheless, the standard for appointing a Guardian of the person, which removes most of an individual's civil rights, is stricter than the standards for appointing a Conservator for the estate of someone who is having difficulty managing his/her business affairs. It is fairly common for an older person to begin to have trouble paying bills, keeping up with bank balances and so on, and yet be capable of making personal decisions and directing his/her own care. The goal of Protective Proceedings is to find the least restrictive appointment possible that will protect the Ward but also encourage the greatest level of independence under the circumstances. (Alabama Code § 26-2A-136.)

Voluntary Decisions Preferable

Although sometimes necessary, this process can be an expensive and cumbersome way to deal with incapacity. It is far better for individuals to realize the possibility of some period of disability, and if there is a suitable person available, to appoint an agent under a Durable Power of Attorney to provide for that increasingly common situation. Sometimes situations develop that require court

intervention even when an agent has been appointed, but in most cases having a valid, well-drafted Durable Power of Attorney and a competent, trustworthy agent can avoid these proceedings.

Having a Guardian or Conservator appointed can be a painful process for families. A person judicially determined to be in need of a guardian loses most of his/her civil rights. Even if (s)he has become unable to exercise many of those rights it is still a serious matter to be legally deprived of them.

*THE INFORMATION PROVIDED HERE IS GENERAL AND CONDENSED. IT IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AND SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS LEGAL ADVICE IN A PARTICULAR SITUATION.

-Information from the University of Alabama Legal Counsel for the Elderly



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Hospice care is based on need rather than the patients' ability to pay. All hospice organizations are subject to review by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations which ultimately attests to the high level of care provided by the hospice organization. Volunteers have traditionally been the backbone of the hospice movement. Specialized training is provided to volunteers primarily to provide support to the patients and their families. Simply being available to visit the patient, assist the caregiver with errands, transportation or other menial tasks can be so meaningful at a time when the patient is terminally ill.

To learn more about hospice programs, contact the agency of your choice.

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www.alacare.com

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Hospice of West Alabama 3851 Loop Rd. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 205-523-0101 www.hospiceofwestalabama.com

Journey Hospice 4930 Rice Mine Rd. Ste. 103 Tuscaloosa, AL 35406 205-349-3065 www.journeyhospice.com

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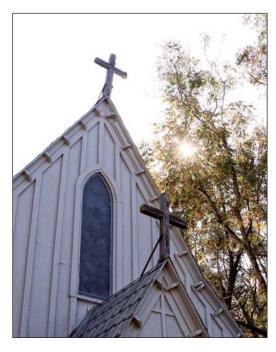
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