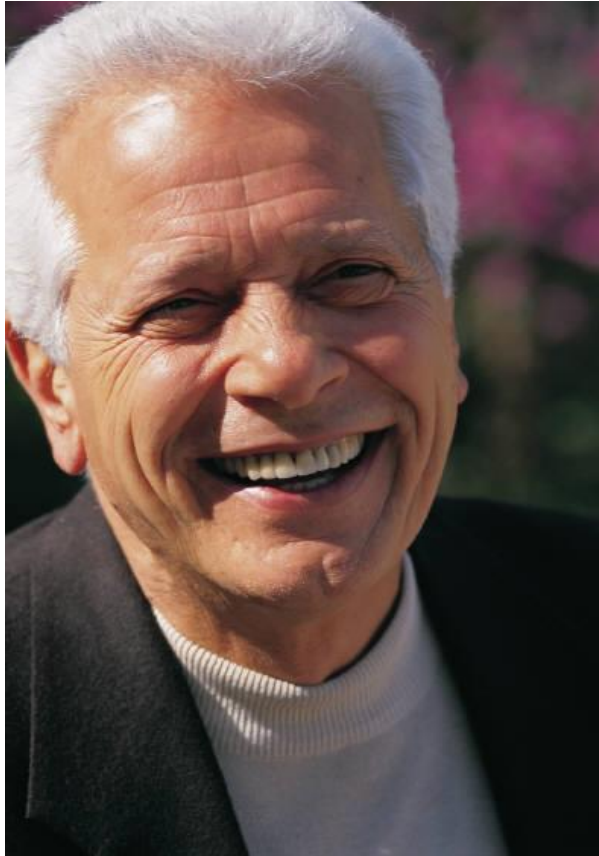


SENIOR HOUSING GUIDE - 2015

for the Livingston County Area

KNOW YOUR NEEDS...



RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS...



CHOOSE YOUR HOME.

DISCUSSING OPTIONS: PRIVATE HOMES, CONDOMINIUMS, APARTMENTS, INDEPENDENT LIVING, ASSISTED LIVING, ADULT FOSTER CARE HOMES, NURSING HOMES, REHABILITATION AND ALZHEIMER FACILITIES IN THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY AREA.

Where do I start?

Choosing to relocate that meets your specific needs can be a very difficult and overwhelming task. As you know, “housing” can mean a variety of things; privately owned homes or condominiums, senior apartments, retirement communities, assisted living, nursing homes and adult day care. In addition, there may be services and amenities to consider. This Senior Housing Guide for Livingston County is intended to assist both seniors and their caregivers work through the process of relocating. (For those who wish to stay in their current home, assistance is available. Please consult our companion guide, the [Livingston County Senior Caregiver Guide](#).)

There are four sections to this senior housing guide:

Section 1: A [glossary](#) defining the general types of housing you may be considering.

Section 2: An inventory of the [specific housing facilities](#) per category with price range and general location.

Section 3: [Checklists](#) for you to use when visiting a particular facility.

Section 4: Information on [accessing additional resources](#) available in the community that go beyond housing; medical needs, government services, transportation, recreation, etc.

This guide may lead to some difficult questions, but in the end we hope it leads you to the answers you seek.

This guide is a publication of the Livingston County Consortium on Aging, a collaborative of public agencies, private businesses and individuals striving to improve the lives of Livingston County seniors.

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GLOSSARY OF HOUSING TERMS

HOMES, CONDOMINIUMS, AND MANUFACTURED/MOBILE HOMES

- The Livingston County Association of Realtors at 810 225-9205 can assist you with information or locating a realtor for private homes and condominiums.
- Manufactured and mobile homes on real property, meaning not on a rented lot, are listed at www.michhome.org. Additional manufactured and mobile home listings can be found in the classified sections of The Livingston County Press & Argus, MLive.com (Ann Arbor), and The Detroit Free Press.

APARTMENTS & SUBSIDIZED HOUSING –

- Rental units of various sizes within the community at large. Seniors residing in apartments are generally able to live independently. Assistance with meals, housekeeping, laundry, etc. must usually be obtained from private or community service agencies. Apartment complexes offer a wide variety of amenities such as a swimming pool, recreational facility, clubhouse, carport or garage.
- Some complexes participate in a rental subsidy for low income seniors. The listing provided in this guide includes all apartment complexes in Livingston County with over 20 units; senior and non-senior; subsidized and non-subsidized.
- Additional apartment listings can be found in the classified sections of The Livingston County Press & Argus (The Green Sheet), MLive.com (Ann Arbor), and The Detroit Free Press.

INDEPENDENT LIVING

- Senior housing complexes offer rental units of various sizes along with elegant living amenities and supportive services such as meals, laundry, housekeeping, transportation and activities usually included in a monthly fee.
- Senior complexes often offer a range of options from independent to assisted living.

CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY (CCRC) –

- Full service communities offering a long-term contract that provides for a continuum of care, including independent, assisted living and nursing services, all on one campus. Some communities require that a long-term contract be signed prior to admission, which guarantees housing and services for as long as the resident lives, regardless of

hi/her health. This usually involves a entrance fee (which may range from \$20,000 to \$100,000) in addition to monthly fees.

GLOSSARY OF HOUSING TERMS (CONTINUED)

ASSISTED LIVING

- Provides a combination of rental units of various sizes for seniors who are able to live relatively independently, but require help with activities of daily living (dressing, bathing, grooming, medicating, etc.).
- Most assisted living facilities include basic services such as meals, laundry, housekeeping, activities and transportation in the base rental price and charge a fee for each additional service such as personal care and medication monitoring.

ADULT FOSTER CARE (AFC) HOMES

- Facilities provide basic services such as room, board, and supervised personal including assistance with medications and activities of daily living (dressing, bathing, grooming, etc.) - generally serving individuals who require 24 hour supervision for health and/or safety reasons.
- General attributes are congregate meals and activities. Some facilities have private rooms and baths, some may roommate compatible residents.
- Some can accommodate memory loss, physical disabilities and younger adults.
- The State of Michigan differentiates AFC's by unrelated resident numbers for licensing purposes: a Family Home (1-6 residents), Medium Group (7-12 residents), Large Group (13-20) and Congregate (greater than 20).
- Vary in size and available services and rates may vary depending upon level of care provided.
- Licensed and regulated by the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services-Bureau of Regulatory Services.

NURSING/REHAB & ALZHEIMER'S

- Residential facilities licensed and regulated by the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services-Bureau of Health Systems to provide a range of services for individuals who require short-term or ongoing care.
- Services range from basic (room and board and assistance with activities of daily living) to skilled (basic services plus professional care services from a nurse and/or therapist).
- Some also provide sub-acute services (rehabilitation components) for individuals requiring skilled services recuperating from an acute illness or injury who intend to return to a different place of residence at some point in

time.

- **Alzheimer’s facilities** offer specialized programs for residents suffering from Alzheimer’s disease or other degrees of memory loss. These programs can be offered by Residential, Assisted Living or Nursing facilities.

Apartments and Subsidized Housing

Apartment Name	Contact	Income Subsidized (YES/NO)	Senior Complex (YES/NO)	Other	Price Range
Brighton Cove Apartments 8699 Meadowbrook Dr City of Brighton	810-229-8277	N	N		\$634sgl
Burwick Farms Apartments 525 W Highland Rd City of Howell	517-548-5755 Phone www.equityapartments.com	N	N	Barrier free units available.	\$\$830sgl- \$927dbl
Brighton Glens 321 Williamson Dr City of Brighton	810-229-2727	N	N		\$684s- \$834dbl
Byron Terrace 607 Byron Rd City of Howell	517-546-3396	N	N		\$589-\$599
Country Glen 600 Warbler Way City of Howell	517-546-5592	Y	Y	Senior, and/or disabled. Includes heat and water. Barrier free units.	\$485-\$606
Fenton Heights 12901 Fenton Heights Blvd Tyrone Township	810-629-7667	N	N	Handicap unit available.	\$525-\$795

Garden Lane Apartments 271 Garden Lane Village of Fowlerville	248-685-3709	N	N	Handicap unit available.	\$650
Glenwood Apartments 797 Hazelnut Village of Fowlerville	517-223-0144	Y	Y	Includes heat and water. Senior, handicapped, and/or disabled. Barrier free units.	\$520-\$723
Glens at Rolling Ridge 3998 Audrey Rae Lane Howell Area (Genoa Township)	517-552-7868	N	N	Barrier free units available.	\$699-\$875
Golden Triangle/Grand River Shores Apartments 3477 Highland Rd (Howell Township)	810 577-1896	N	N	Includes heat.	\$625-\$725
Grand Plaza Apartments 401 S Highlander Way City of Howell	517-546-7773	N	N		\$649-\$724
Greenwich Village 428 Greenwich Dr City of Howell	517-548-0031	Y	N		\$560-\$670

Hibner Road Apartments 11047 Hibner Rd Hartland Township	810 632-5508	N	N	Handicap modified available.	\$675-\$700
Lakeshore Village Apartments 2812 Ontario Court Genoa Township	517-546-6567	Y	N	Barrier free unit available.	\$715-\$955
Lexington Manor 898 E Grand River City of Brighton	810-229-7881	N	N	Swimming pool.	\$625-\$735
Meadow Glen Apartments 470 N Grand Village of Fowlerville	517-223-0144	Y	Y	Includes heat and water. Barrier free units available.	\$409-\$632
Mallard Pond 1575 Mallard Pond Dr Oceola Township	517-540-6156	N	N	Ground floor units available.	\$700-\$1500
Mill Pond Manor Apartments 614 N 2 nd St City of Brighton	810-629-1179	Y	Y	Barrier free units available.	30% of income
Oakbrooke Apartments 201 E Elizabeth Hartland Township	810-629-1179	N	N	Barrier free units available.	\$750-\$955

Oak Tree Village Managed by Independence Village of Brighton Valley City of Brighton	810-229-3303 www.seniorhousing.net	N	Y (55+)		\$699-\$805
Ore Creek 609 Flint St City of Brighton	810-229-5167	N	N		\$635-\$710
Pine Hill Apartments 307 Holly Hills Dr City of Howell	517-546-7660 pinehill@fourmidable.com	N	N		\$580-\$685
Prentis Estate Apartments 1103 S Latson Rd Genoa Township	517-546-8200	N	N	Includes heat and water. Barrier free units available.	\$615-\$625sgl \$725-755dbl
Quail Creek Apartments 527 Greenwich St City of Howell	517-548-3733	N	N	Barrier free units available. Includes heat.	\$585-\$605
Rock Hill Duplexes 6179 McGuire Rd Fenton	810-632-5834	N	N		\$679-\$750
Rolling Meadows Apartments 360 N Ann St Village of Fowlerville	517-223-3883	Y	N		\$499-\$543

Rolling Meadows Senior Apartments 360 N Ann St Village of Fowlerville	517-223-3883	Y	Y	Includes heat and water. Barrier free units available.	\$499-\$543sgl \$535-\$575dbl
Senior Suites 800 N. Old US 23 Brighton	586 242-2772 laura@seniorsuites.net	Y	Y	Includes utilities, tv, WiFi. Shared kitchen. 8 barrier free suites available.	
Sunny Knoll Apartments 1333 W Grand River Ave City of Howell	517-546-3811	N	Y	Handicap units available.	\$625
Town Commons 605 Pere Marquette City of Howell	517-545-5930	N	N	Handicap units available. Trash and water included	\$1100-1950
Brighton Glens Apts 321 Williamsen Dr City of Brighton	810-229-2727	N	N		\$684
Village Place Apartments 1225 E Van Riper Village of Fowlerville	517-223-7445	N	N	Barrier free units available.	\$695
Washington Square Apts 33 E. Washington City of Howell	248-249-1491	N	N		\$650-\$690
Westbury 1025 Westbury Blvd Genoa Township	517-545-8100	N	N		\$1095-\$1695
Whitehills Apartments I 320 Alger St City of Howell	517-546-5592	Y	N	Includes heat and water. Barrier free units available.	Based on income

Whitehills Apartments II 320 Alger St City of Howell	517-546-5592	Y	N	Includes heat and water. Barrier free units available.	Based on income
Woodland Lake Apartments 8200 Woodland Shore Dr Brighton Township	313 917-2183	N	N		\$525
Yorkshire Place Apartments 1504 Yorkshire Dr City of Howell	517-546-5900	N	N	Barrier free units available.	\$665-\$820

INDEPENDENT LIVING

Facility	Contact	Price Info	Additional Housing Options
Emeritus at Brighton 833 E. Grand River Brighton	810-229-9190 www.emeritus.com	\$1425-\$3250 Some Services Included	Independent and Assisted Living
Independence Village of Brighton Valley 7700 Nemco Way Brighton	810-227-7666 www.seniorhousing.net	\$2800-\$4400 Services & Amenities Included	Enhanced Living with services from onsite home health care agency
Oak Tree Village 7800 Nemco Way Managed by Ind. Village of Brighton Valley Brighton	810-229-3303 www.seniorhousing.net	\$699-\$805	Assisted Living available through Independence of Brighton Valley
Oakhaven Manor 1320 Ashebury Lane Howell	517-548-9870 www.havenmanors.com	\$1100 Packages of Services & Amenities available	Enhanced Living With services from onsite home health care agency

Sanctuary at Woodland 7533 Grand River Brighton	810-844-7477 www.villagewoodland.org	\$2240	Independent and Assisted Living
Village Manor Retirement 9501 E. Highland Rd Hartland	810-844-7477 www.rmretirement.com	\$2380-\$3250 Some service & amenities included	Independent and Assisted Living

SURROUNDING AREA

Glacier Hills Life-Care Retirement Community 1200 Earhart Rd Ann Arbor	734-913-0730 www.glacierhills.org	Call for details.	Provides a full continuum of care from independent living to nursing care.
Silver Maples of Chelsea 100 Silver Maples Dr Chelsea	734-475-4111 www.silvermaples.org	Call for details.	Residential villas, apartments, assisted living. Respite and adult day services.

ASSISTED LIVING

Assisted Living Facility	Contact Info	Price Info	Additional Housing Options
Emeritus at Brighton 833 E. Grand River Ave Brighton	810-626-0278 www.emeritus.com	\$1425 - \$3250 Some Services Included	Independent and Assisted Living
Independence Village of Brighton Valley 7700 Nemco Way Brighton	888-228-2674 Toll Free 810-227-7666 www.seniorvillages.com	\$3250-\$3900 Services & Amenities Included	Independent and Assisted Living

Patti Lewis Care Home 205 Francis Rd Howell	517 545-1275 www.pattilewishome.com	Call for details.	Specialized assisted living area for memory loss care. Also offers home care.
Vista Springs 605 Pere Marquette Rd Howell	517-540-1926 www.vistaspringsliving.com	Call for details.	Specialized assisted living area for memory loss care.
Sanctuary at Woodland 7533 Grand River Brighton	810-844-7477 810-844-7444 www.villagewoodland.org	\$2240	Provides a full continuum of care from independent living to nursing care.

SURROUNDING AREA

Glacier Hills Life-Care Retirement Community 1200 Earhart Rd Ann Arbor	734-913-0730 www.glacierhills.org	Call for details.	Independent Living and Nursing Care
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ADULT FOSTER CARE

As of spring 2015 there were 59 state-licensed adult foster care facilities in Livingston County. Because of the flux and growth of the adult foster care facility family, no conclusive list is compiled for this publication. You may access a current listing of state-licenses AFC homes via the Internet at www.dleg.state.mi.us. There you may search by size, location and find a contact phone number. You may also contact the Livingston County Department of Human Services at 517-548-0298.

HOME CARE

Home Care, by definition, would be services provided in the home. In many case home care services can extend staying in the original domicile. Some expenses may be covered by Medicare or supplemental insurance coverage. Please refer to our sister publication, the **Livingston County Senior Caregivers Guide**, for further discussion and a listing of home care agencies in the Livingston County area, available at our website, www.livingstoncoa.org

HOSPICE

Hospice, by definition, is intended to assist the patient and family during a life-threatening period. Care may be provided in the home, hospital or a senior care facility. It is intended to involve the family along with medical professionals to provide a more comfortable physical and emotional environment for the patient. Please refer to our sister publication, the **Livingston County Senior Caregivers Guide**, for further discussion of this topic, and a listing of hospice providers in the Livingston County area, available at our website, www.livingstoncoa.org.

NURSING/REHAB & ALZHEIMER’S FACILITIES

An Internet search at www.medicare.gov will provide a complete listing by county of licensed nursing homes. Livingston County has three (3), while adjoining Oakland County has thirty-eight (38) and Washtenaw County has nine (9). This site also identifies Medicare and Medicaid participation. Below are those located in Livingston County.

Nursing/Rehab Facility	Contact Info	Alzheimer’s Facility (YES/NO)
Ashley Court of Brighton 7400 Challis Rd Brighton	810-225-7400 www.ashleycourtofbrighton.com	YES Specializes In Memory Impaired
Caretel Inns of Brighton 1014 E Grand River Ave Brighton	810-220-5222 www.caretelinnssofarbrighton.com	YES
Medilodge of Howell 1333 W. Grand River Howell	517 548-1900 www.medilodgeofhowell.com	Call for details.
WellBridge of Brighton 2200 Dorr Rd Howell	517-947-4400 www.wellbridgegroup.com	NO
White Pine Rehab & Care Center 3003 W Grand River	517-546-4210 www.whitepinecare/howell.com	YES Specializes in Memory Impaired

Howell		Accepts Medicare and Medicaid.
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ADULT DAY CARE & RESPITE

- Provides supervised activities for frail older adults, who are socially isolated, confused, experiencing memory loss, or have a physical impairment, and respite for the participant's caregiver either in the home or community setting.
- Individuals can choose the length and frequency of their program visits and care may be from a few hours to several weeks.

Organization	Contact	In Home or Facility Based	Overnight (Y/N)
Area Agency on Aging 1B - AAA1B	800-852-7795 www.aaa1b.org	Both	Y
Ashley Court of Brighton 7400 Challis Rd Brighton	810-225-7400 www.ashleycourtofbrampton.com	Facility	Y No minimum stay required
Health Care Innovations Brighton	810 227-7544 www.hcinnov.com	Independent Living Facilities & In-Home	Y
Be Our Guest Adult Day Care 2020 E Grand River #104 Howell	517-546-9910 www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org	Facility	N
OLHSA (Oakland Livingston Human	517-546-8500	Home	N

Service Agency)	www.olhsa.org		
Vista Springs 605 Pere Marquette Rd Howell	517-540-1926 www.vistspringsliving.com	Facility	Y
Sanctuary at Woodlands 7533 Grand River Brighton	810-844-7477 www.trinityseniorsanctuary.org	Facility	Y Call for details

CHOOSING A RETIREMENT/INDEPENDENT LIVING COMMUNITY

You may want to consider living in an independent senior complex if several of the following statements apply to you:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> You want to remain independent. | <input type="checkbox"/> You would like planned social and recreational activities. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You have concerns about your health. | <input type="checkbox"/> You would like transportation service available. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency medical help is important to you. | <input type="checkbox"/> You would like meals prepared for you. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housekeeping assistance would be helpful to you. | <input type="checkbox"/> You are willing to move from where you live now. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You would like assistance with home maintenance and repairs. | <input type="checkbox"/> You are willing to have less living space in order to receive services such as prepared meals, maintenance, and housekeeping. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You would like assistance with some outdoor maintenance. | <input type="checkbox"/> You would feel safer if you moved somewhere else. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You would enjoy the opportunity to meet new people in a social setting. | <input type="checkbox"/> You would feel safer if you lived with other older adults in a community setting. |

Things to consider when visiting a Retirement/Independent Living Community:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request a resident to be your tour guide. | <input type="checkbox"/> Are carpets and furniture clean? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have lunch with the residents. | <input type="checkbox"/> Are amenities operating? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure you tour the entire facility. | <input type="checkbox"/> Was staff friendly and respectful? Did they know residents by name? Are they experienced? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> If available and your schedule allows ask to stay | |

- overnight in a guest suite.
- What was your feeling when you toured the community?
- Was there activity in the main lounge, activities room, exercise facilities, library or other common areas?
- Was mealtime in the dining room pleasant?
- Are common areas and apartments designed so you can live as easily and independently as you would like?
- What percentage of the apartments has been rented and is occupied?
- Does the facility have a good reputation in the local community?

CHOOSING AN ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE OR ADULT FOSTER CARE HOME

You will want to tour several different Assisted Living facilities before making your final decision. Because the facility of your choice may have a waiting list, it will be important to begin looking before the need arises. When trying to compare residences you should determine what is included in the monthly rent and what are the additional services charged as a la cart items.

How does Assisted Living differ from other senior housing?

Assisted Living becomes an option for seniors when they are no longer able to continue to live independently, but they don't need nursing care on a daily basis. These facilities provide more health care services than most independent living retirement communities and usually have 24-hour security and on-site staff.

Things to consider when visiting an Assisted Living Community:

In General:

- Are staff visible and available to residents? Are they friendly, professional and experienced?
- Are you able to talk with residents? Do they socialize with each other and appear happy and comfortable?
- Is there a safe and accessible outdoors area for walking and congregating?
- Are visits with the residents welcome at any time?
- Is the residence clean, free of odors and appropriately heated/cooled?
- Does the residence meet local and/or state licensing requirements?

Medication/Health Care:

- What is the residence policy regarding storage of and assistance with medication; training and supervision of staff; and record keeping?
- Can residents manage their own medications?
- Who coordinates visits from a nurse, physical therapist, occupational therapist, etc.?

Services:

- Is staff available to provide 24-hour assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs)? ADLs include: dressing; eating; mobility; hygiene and grooming; bathing; toileting and incontinence; using the telephone; shopping; and laundry.

Features of Individual Units:

- Are different sizes and floor types available?
- Are units for single and double occupancy available?

- Is the community well-designed for resident's need?
- Is the floor plan easy to follow?
- Are doorways, hallways, & rooms accessible to wheel chairs and walkers?
- Are elevators available?
- Are handrails available?
- Are cupboards and shelves easy to reach?
- Are the floors of a non-skid material and carpets firm?
- Does the residence have good natural and artificial lighting?

- Is the staff available to assist those with memory, orientation or judgment loss?
- Does a physician or nurse visit the resident regularly to provide medical checkups?
- What is the procedure for responding to a medical emergency?

- Does the residence provide housekeeping services in residents' units? Are linens provided? On a daily or weekly basis?
- Is transportation to doctors' office and other activities?
- Are pharmacy, barber/beautician and/or physical therapy service offered on-site?

- Are residents able to bring their own furnishings and what may they bring?
- Do all units have a telephone and cable TV

- Can residents lock their own door?
- Is a 24-hour emergency response system accessible from the unit?
- Are bathrooms private with handicapped accommodations?

Social and Recreation Activities:

- Is there evidence of organized activities program, such as a posted daily schedule, events in progress, visitors, etc?
- Do residents participate in the neighboring community?
- Do volunteers, including family members, come into the residence to help with or conduct programs?

Food Service:

- Does the residence provide three nutritionally balanced meals a day, seven days a week?
- Are snacks available throughout the day and evening?
- May a resident request special food?

- connection? How is billing handled?
- Is a kitchen area provided?
- May residents keep food in their units?
- May residents smoke in their units? Are there designated smoking areas in the facility?

- Does the facility require residents to undertake any chores or perform specific activities that benefit all residents?
- Are residents' pets allowed? Who is responsible for their care? Is an additional security deposit required for pets?
- Does the facility have pets?

- Are common dining areas available?
- May residents eat meals in their units?
- May meals be provided at a time a resident would like or are there set times?

CHOOSING A NURSING/REHAB FACILITY

Use the following checklist to heighten your awareness of what to look for as you assess various homes. If possible, both the family and the older person should be involved in the decision-making process. The more an older person participates in the planning process, the better he or she will be able to adjust to the new environment.

How to tour and review a facility

- Talk with staff from various departments; nursing, dietary, social services, activities and administration.
- Talk with residents and their families.
- Make an appointment to tour the facility and later make an unannounced visit at a different time on a different day.
- Consider the overall feel of the facility and let your senses guide you during your visit.

- Pick up a copy of the facility's Admissions Agreement. Read it carefully and mark any areas you don't understand or are concerned with. Ask the social services director or administrator to explain these areas.
- Ask for a copy of the Nursing Home Residents' Bill of Rights and familiarize yourself with it.
- Ask to review the facility complaint records and annual inspection.
- Use the following checklist during your tour.

Things to consider when choosing a nursing/rehab facility:

Outside and Overall Environment:

- Does the facility have ample outside lighting?
- Is staff present when residents are outside?
- Are special considerations taken in the design of the outside areas for residents with memory loss or orientation issues?
- Are exits clearly marked?
- Is there someone at the front entrance to greet and sign in visitors?
- Is there ample parking space for visitors?

Medical Care:

- How does the home assure regular medical attention?
- How often do physicians visit?
- Is there on-site physical, occupational, and speech therapy?
- What is the staff-to-resident ratio?
- Are there regular nursing in-service and educational programs for staff?
- What is the turnover rate for nurses and nurses assistants?

Interior Space and Rooms:

- Are rooms clean, cheerful and have adequate lighting?
- Is the building free of odors throughout?
- Are emergency pull cords accessible in the resident's room and adjoining bath?
- Does the facility or family furnish the room?
- In shared rooms does each resident have private space, room for individual belongings and space for visitors?
- How are room changes and roommate concerns

Community Living Space:

- Do residents have access to common areas throughout the building?
- Are residents limited to the common areas on their wing or floor?
- Can families reserve rooms for private parties or meetings?

Dining:

- How are dining rooms staffed?
- Are snacks available upon request?

addressed?

Activities:

- Where are the majority of activities held?
- Are activities tailored to different resident groups?
- Can residents attend activities outside the facility?
- Are there structured activities on weekends and evenings?
- Are residents personally encouraged to participate in activities?
- Are there established visiting hours?
- How are activities broadcast to residents?

Religious Affiliation: Are various religious services held? Is there a Chaplain/Rabbi on staff?

- Can families be present during meal time? Can they purchase meals?
- Are residents permitted to have food/snack in their rooms?
- Is there a set mealtime, or a range of meals hours?
- Are seating arrangements flexible?

Resident self-determination:

- Does the facility have an active resident and family council?
- Are there support groups sponsored by outside agencies?
- Is there someone on staff to address resident's concerns or complaints?
- How are discharge plans developed for residents?

CHOOSING HOME CARE SERVICES

Questions to ask before choosing home care services:

- Does Medicare certify the agency?
- Does the agency have a contact with your insurance/HMO?
- Does the agency bill insurance provider directly?
- What type of training, supervision and monitoring does it provide its staff?
- Does the agency develop a plan of care and how often is it reviewed?
- Does a nurse conduct an initial assessment and is there an additional cost for this?
- Does the agency provide family with training on high-tech equipment in the home?
- Is there a 24-hour emergency contact for questions or complaints?
- How does the agency assure that staff are available for the requested times?
- How does the agency insure consistency of care providers?
- Is there a charge for canceling a scheduled day?
- How does the agency screen their staff? Are criminal checks completed?

If you are hiring a home care worker not affiliated with an agency, it is important to:

- Check references
- Check with any State Licensing Boards
- Have a back-up plan for when the worker is sick or on vacation.

CONSIDER ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE – NOT MOVING AFTER ALL

This guide offers a range of options for those considering relocating. But for many seniors, moving is not an option. Frankly, many seniors would prefer to stay in their own home as long as possible.

If this is your first choice, consider the following home modifications that could be made to accommodate your needs:

- Remove scatter rugs and increase light bulb wattages.
- Install grab bars for showers and toilets, and levered rather than round-knobbed door handles. Check out AARP on the web for additional safety tips and techniques or type “home safety for seniors” to search the Internet.
- Amplified phone systems.
- Technology that allows you to wear an alert monitor which contacts an emergency service should you have an accident – Lifeline, Medical Alert, Life Response USA, etc.
- Widen doorways and construct an exterior ramp as needs increase – be sure to contact your local planning department to assure compliance with any zoning requirements.
- Hire someone to come to your home to help with cleaning, shopping, transportation or simple medical needs. Many agencies specialize in these services.

ADDITIONAL HELP

You've read through this guide and you are still thinking, "I need help sorting through all of this!" You are NOT alone. Livingston County offers a large range of living options; some are private, some are insurance-assist and others are income based. It's hard to decide. But, be assured that all are driven by a desire to provide a quality progression of services for our county's seniors.

To begin, talk frankly with your family and express your concerns and desires. Read through this guide to get a better understanding of your options. Then consider a call to Livingston County Catholic Charities at 517-545-5944. Their Resource Advocates will discuss your range of options and help you make an informed decision.

And the Internet is a good resource. Visit www.michiganhousinglocator.com, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority site, with a searchable inventory data.

RESOURCES

Map of Livingston County

Area Senior Centers

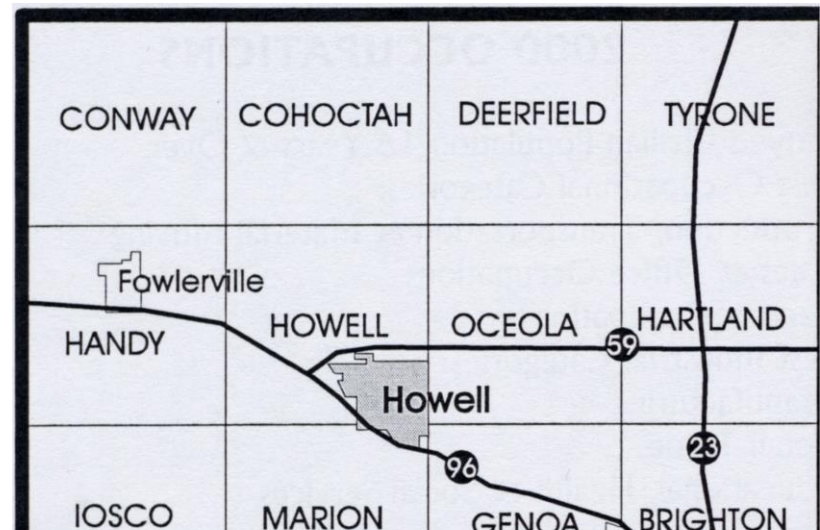
Brighton	810-229-3817
Fowlerville	517-223-3929
Hamburg	810-231-1000 ext 225
Hartland	810-632-6286
Howell	517-545-0219
Putnam Township	734-878-1810
Unadilla	734-498-2502

Hospitals & Clinics

St. Joseph Mercy – Howell	517-545-6000
St. Joseph Mercy – Ypsilanti	800-231-2211
University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	800-211-8181
Whitmore Lake Health Clinic	734-449-2033

Adult Protective Services

517-546-8668



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the **Livingston County Consortium on Aging**, our county-wide group of senior service providers, public and private, working to better Livingston County's services to our seniors.
This guide is made available to you at no cost as a Consortium service.

In Service to Seniors,

Author

Mark Swanson

Livingston County Consortium on Aging

Area Agency on Aging 1B Advisory Board

Michigan Senior Advocacy Council

Project Consultants