Last year, more than 20,000 Rhode Islanders utilized home care agencies for over 1,000,000 home care visits.

The Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care (RIPHC) is an association of licensed agencies providing home nursing care, homemaking and comfort to patients and their families when the need is great and resources are stretched.

• Home care is the most cost-effective healthcare delivery offered as there are no room and board costs compared to nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, and other institutional care settings.
• Home care promotes healing, as studies have shown that patients and clients recover faster in the comfort of their home.
• Home care offers individualized services that are tailored to the patient or client healthcare needs and finances, supplementing care from family and friends.

The member agencies of the Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care allow families the peace of mind that their loved ones are receiving quality care and continue to live independently at home with the support that they need.

Advancing quality healthcare at home

Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care is the statewide trade association representing home care, home nursing care and hospice agencies.
RIPHC promotes quality home healthcare services, ethical healthcare business practices and positive patient and client outcomes.

www.riphc.org
260 West Exchange Street, Suite 005, Providence RI, 02903

401-351-1010
What is the Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care?

RIPHC is a statewide trade association founded in 1990 representing 48 organizations that provide or promote home healthcare and supportive services in the home.

RIPHC Beliefs:
- The value of home and community-based care
- The right of the client/patient to have access to home care services
- The client/patient has the right to select the provider of her/his choice
- The client’s/patient’s right to privacy
- The client/patient should always receive safe and appropriate services
- The provider should be qualified, reliable, ethical and competent

RIPHC Values:
- RIPHC believes that the highest standards of patient and client care and integrity in business practices are the most effective ways to establish and retain public confidence.
- RIPHC members provide quality in service delivery and commit themselves to maintaining the highest of ethical standards.
- RIPHC is committed to ensuring that the culture of the industry is grounded in ethical behavior and evidence-based clinical practices.

RIPHC Member Services
Our program of care planning is tailored to meet your needs, with a variety of services that provide comfort and support.

Your unique program of care may include:
- Regular visits scheduled at your place of residence
- Ensure prescribed medications are taken regularly and as directed
- Medical supplies and equipment
- Support for activities of daily living (ADL)
- Personal care and grooming
- Emotional support and guidance
- Education and support for caregivers
- Physical and speech therapies
- Palliative care and other integrative therapies
Dear Readers,

Thank you for picking up your copy of the “Rhode Island Home Care Connections” newspaper supplement published by the Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care (RIPCH).

RIPHC members are committed to promoting quality home healthcare to everyone in need in every Rhode Island community.

Whether you or your loved one needs long-term care in order to remain living independently in their home or you are recovering from surgery and require short-term care and therapy, our member agencies are available to provide the quality care needed.

Home care agencies help with homemaking, nursing care, hospice, palliative care, as well as physical and occupational therapy — just to name a few of the services offered.

These healthcare services in the home are less expensive and are often covered by your health insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid benefits. Why enter into a nursing home or rehabilitation center when you can continue to enjoy the comfort and privacy of your own home? Nursing homes and rehabilitation centers are not your only option.

I hope that you find the information in this newspaper supplement helpful. I would also encourage you to view www.riphc.org or call (401) 351-1010 for more information and to find a home care agency that provides the quality healthcare services needed.

Laurie C. Ellison, RN
President
Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care
Assessing the Need for Home Care

Before seeking home care, you should determine what kind of care is needed and what are the goals for care:

• Do you or your loved one need skilled nursing care?
• Has a physician expressed concern about you or your loved one’s ability to continue to live independently without support?
• Do you or your loved one need assistance with personal care for activities of daily living, such as bathing, toileting, or dressing?
• Are there any cognitive or behavioral health issues that need to be addressed?
• How long and how frequently do you expect that you or your loved one will need care?

What is Home Care?

Home care is a healthcare service provided in an individual consumer’s home by licensed healthcare professionals. Licensed personnel may help the individual with daily tasks, such as bathing, preparing meals, eating, and cleaning their home. For terminally ill patients or clients, home care may include hospice care. For patients or clients recovering from surgery or illness, home care may include rehabilitative assistance.

Home care encompasses a wide array of healthcare services provided by nurse assistants, nurses, and therapists within the patient’s or client’s residence. Depending on the level of care required by the patient or client, a person may need care in their home a couple of times a week, once a day, or throughout the day everyday.

Home care is utilized to recover from an injury or post-hospitalization, immediately following the birth of a child, or support within a retirement home or assisted living facility. Many consumers of home care utilize services in order to stay independent in their home while living with a chronic or terminal illness or the gradual decline of daily capacity that comes with aging. Each home care patient or client receives an individual care plan that meets their needs to live independently with healthcare support in their home.
What are the Advantages of Home Care?

Last year, over 20,000 Rhode Islanders utilized home care agencies for over 1,000,000 home care visits.

- Home care is the most cost-effective healthcare delivery offered as there are no room and board costs compared to nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, and other institutional care settings.
- Home care promotes healing, as studies have shown that patients and clients recover faster in the comfort of their home.
- Home care offers individualized services that are tailored to the patient or client’s healthcare needs and finances.
- Home care reinforces and supplements care from the patient or client’s family, friends and other caregivers. Home care agencies have staff with expertise in assessing patient or client needs and developing care plans, usually at no additional cost to the patient or client.

What is Hospice?

Hospice provides compassionate care for persons who are living with an incurable illness and are within the last six months of projected end-of-life. Hospice provides patients and clients with comfort and quality of life.

It is a holistic approach to control pain and manage symptoms. Patients and clients can continue their treatment plan and fight their illness while enrolled in hospice. Hospice begins when the patient or client has less than six months to live. Hospice provides the patient or client and their loved ones access to an array of services that ease the burden on primary caregivers and their families.

Together, hospice services can remove some of the hardships of the remaining months and days, instead allowing patients and clients and their families to spend more quality time together.
**Hiring Home Care Agency VS Direct Hire**

Consumers should be aware of the following benefits of using a home care agency versus the risks of a direct hire:

**Employer Obligations of Direct Hire:** By hiring a home health aide or nurse directly, the individual consumer and their family takes on the responsibilities as their employer. This includes paying for the employee’s payroll taxes, workers compensation, unemployment insurance, and liability. If the employee gets hurt during their time providing care or commuting to or from the individual’s home, it is the consumer that is legally and financially liable.

**Peace of Mind from Home Care Agencies:** Home care agencies are required to conduct thorough national criminal background checks that provide more comprehensive data than available to the public prior to any home care agency employee stepping foot into a patient’s or client’s home.

**Security and Contingency:** If a consumer’s direct hire harms or steals from the consumer, it is still the consumer that is liable. However, home care agencies are required to maintain various insurances to protect their patients or clients and are required by law to promptly investigate all complaints of abuse or theft. Furthermore, home care agencies can provide a replacement without disruption of service if the home care agency employee gets sick, injured, or changes jobs.

**Ongoing Training and Supervision:** If the consumer has a direct hire, the consumer is responsible for continuous training and supervision. In contrast, home care agencies have the experience, knowledge, training, resources, and licensure to ensure that their employees are thoroughly trained.

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**Paying for Home Care**

Many government programs and private insurance will pay for home care services under specific circumstances:

**Medicare (federal) and Medicaid (state):**
Covers home care services when the patient or client:
- a) cannot leave their home without physical assistance;
- b) is currently under a physician’s care; and
- c) requires skilled nursing or therapy services.

**Commercial Health Insurance:**
Covers home care services when the patient or client is recovering from surgery, injury, or a specific illness, but generally not for chronic conditions or aging. Typically, home healthcare is covered with co-pays and deductibles.

**Long-Term Care Insurance:**
Covers home care services as an alternative to nursing homes and other institutional care. The home care benefits are generally capped at a certain amount per day, week, or month.

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**Seeking home care, home nursing care or hospice services?**

**Rhode Island Partnership for Home Care**

www.riphc.org
References Are Important

References are very important in choosing a home healthcare provider. Ask these questions of the person/entity giving you their recommendation for a particular provider:

- Do you frequently refer patients or clients to this provider?
- Do you have a contractual relationship with this provider? If so, do you require the provider to meet special standards for quality care?
- What sort of feedback have you received from patients or clients receiving care from this provider, either on an informal basis or through a formal satisfaction survey?
- Do you know of any patients or clients that this provider has treated with cases that are similar to mine or my loved one’s? If so, can you contact these individuals on my behalf?

Discover the Home Care Advantage

As a family-owned, locally-operated business, we were founded on the heartfelt principles of preserving comfort, dignity, and quality of life at home.

When quality of life is paramount, quality of care matters.

We offer a comprehensive and proven range of home care services that work for your specific needs. From one hour per day to round the clock support. You may be headed home to recover from a hospital stay. An elderly parent may need help with daily activities. Is there a new mom who needs help at home with the baby?

- Skilled nursing care
- Physical and occupational therapy
- Speech therapy
- Wound management
- Diabetic care
- Chronic disease management
- Long-term nursing care
- Pediatric care
- Mother and infant care
- Respite care
- Daily living support
- IV services

Recovery Services (401) 781-9544 • Long-Term Care Services (401) 781-3400
www.homecareadvantage.com
Pinnacle Home Care is Medicare-certified and accredited by the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

Pinnacle Home Care is locally owned and operated with services throughout Rhode Island.

(401) 921-3133 • pinnaclehcri.com
57 Kilvert Street, Warwick, RI 02886

Professional • Trustworthy • Dependable

Pinnacle Home Care can provide the healthcare you need, skillfully delivered in the comfort of your own home.

Our professional caregivers understand the complex needs of seniors in the community and strive to provide the most dependable, effective home care available:

- Registered nurses
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech therapy
- Home health aides
- Wound care
- Medication management
- Disease management
- Diabetic teaching
- Venipuncture
- Catheter care
- Cardiac care
- Pain management
- Fall prevention
- Nutrition education

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“Reaching New Heights in Home Care”

Pinnacle Home Care is locally owned and operated with services throughout Rhode Island.

Pinnacle Home Care is Medicare-certified and accredited by the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

We Make Sure Older Adults Get What They Want...

A continuum of health services specialized to meet the needs of older adults, include:

- Senior Friendly Emergency Rooms at Roger Williams Medical Center and Our Lady of Fatima Hospital
- Cancer Care for Seniors
- Advanced Primary Stroke Care
- Geriatric Psychiatry
- Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation
- Transitional Care for Orthopedic and Surgical Recovery
- Elmhurst Extended Care
- Home Health Care Services

Specialized Health Care from CharterCARE Health Partners

Our older adults bring a wealth of experience and perspective to our community. They are a treasured resource who have earned only the best, especially when it comes to health care.

That’s why CharterCARE has developed specialized elder health care options across our entire system… Roger Williams Medical Center, Our Lady of Fatima Hospital, Elmhurst Extended Care and CharterCARE Home Care.

Charting the Way to a Healthier Rhode Island

If you are age 65 or older, look first to CharterCARE for health care services. We’re Rhode Island’s leader in elder health care.

For information, visit our Web site at www.chartercare.org.