

Congregate Housing

A non-institutional, shared living environment for elders and adults with disabilities.

An alternative environment that integrates supportive services and offers the choice of independent living for people who can no longer live alone, but do not require the medical supervision of a nursing facility. Congregate living provides companionship, group interaction and services that support the health and well-being of residents.

Services

Case Management services, shared by a Congregate Housing Coordinator and a Registered Nurse, authorize home care services according to each resident's level of need. Services may include homemaker, personal care, adult day health, social day care, home health aide/skilled services, personal emergency response systems, laundry, shopping and light housekeeping. A well-balanced home-style meal is provided at many of the congregate sites.

Eligibility

Adults who are at least 60 years of age or under 60 with a disability, who meet the income guidelines of the public housing authority and who would benefit from the supportive setting. Individuals must not require 24-hour supervision, must be oriented to time and place, display good judgement and safety skills. They must be willing to accept supportive services if necessary, exhibit non-harmful behavior towards themselves or others and understand the role and responsibility of a congregate resident. The Multi-disciplinary Assessment Team (MAT) will meet to discuss each applicant and the housing authority will notify the applicant of the outcome.

Cost

A resident's income is carefully reviewed and 30% is paid directly to the housing authority, which includes rent, heat and electricity. Residents over the age of 60 may pay for home care services based on a sliding fee scale. If the particular site has an evening meal program, residents may choose to participate for an additional fee.

Congregate Locations

Congregate units are usually located within an elder apartment complex with each resident having a private bedroom and sharing the kitchen, dining and/or bathing facilities. Apartment layouts differ from site to site.

More Information

Elder Services can assist with the application process and assign a Congregate Housing Coordinator to work with you and your family. We are happy to speak with you about congregate choices and highly recommend a congregate tour for all interested applicants. A site tour is an essential part of the process for those who choose to apply to congregate housing. To make a referral, contact our Information and Referral Department at 1-800-892-0890.

