Mission Statement: To provide seniors and caregivers of Norman and Cleveland County with the most current information to navigate senior resources

LISTING IN THE RESOURCE DIRECTORY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN ENDORSEMENT Availability may change

Printed May 2017

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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Location	Ambulance	Police	Fire
Lexington	911-TTY	405-527-9881	405-527-9881
Moore	911-TTY	405-793-5171	405-793-5171
Noble	911-TTY	405-872-9231	405-872-3030
Norman	911-TTY	405-321-1600	405-321-1600
Poison Contr	·ol		405-271-5454
Hailian Comando			
Utility Contacts	Tarakuta		405 272 0744
OG&E – E			405-272-9741
OEC – Ele			405-321-2024
ONG – Ga			405-551-4000
City of No	orman-Water, Se	ewer, Trash	405-366-8282
City of Norman-G	ieneral Informa	tion Contacts	
General Information			405-366-5406
Utility Billing/Cust. Service		e	405-366-5320
Water/Sewer Maintenance			405-329-0703
After hours and weekends		ends	405-321-1600
Action Center			405-366-5396
Cleveland County sheriff			911 or 405-321-8600
Norman Chamber of Commerce 115 E. Gray St, Norman, OK 73069 www.normanchamber.com		9	405-321-7260
Norman Convention & Visitors Bureau 309 E. Main St, Norman, OK 73069			405-366-8095

Heartline

2-1-1

Information and Referral

www.visitnorman.com

AARP

Meets 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm located at the Brand Senior Center 501 E. Main Street, Moore, OK.

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Full Circle Adult Day Center

405-447-2955

1304 Lindsey Plaza Drive, Norman, OK.

Full Circle Adult Day Center is the premier provider of adult day health care services, including nutrition, social and recreational activities for aging adults and respite to caregivers in our community.

www.fullcircleok.org

ASSESSMENT

ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

800-435-4711

Call for intake and screening information. Non-institutional long term care services through the Medicaid program. To help functionally impaired elderly persons and adults with physical disabilities remain in their own homes as long as possible. Services include case management; skilled nursing; personal care; homemaker chore; medical equipment; adult day care. www.okdhs.org/services/aging/pages/advantageservices.aspx

CARE MANAGEMENT

OU College of Nursing Care Management

1-866-416-4980

DHS Advantage provider www.oulifestagesolutions.com

Or 405-271-8767

Crossroads 405-310-9626

Helps put a plan in place when taking care of an elderly loved one. Consultation, Plan of Action, Emergency Guidance and Referrals.

www.crossroadseps.com

Caring Transitions

405-293-4723

Senior relocation, downsizing and decluttering, estate sales and online auctions

www.caringtransitions.com

CRISIS ASSISTANCE

Adult Protective Services, DHS Disaster Relief, American Red Cross Domestic Violence Hotline Heartline, 24 hour Suicide Norman Shelter for Battered Women's Crisis Line Rape Crisis Line Sexual Assault Hotline EDUCATION	405-573-8300 405-321-0591 405-917-9922 405-848-2273 405-701-5540 405-701-5660 405-943-7273
City of Norman Senior Citizen Classes	405-329-4200
Cleveland County Cooperative Extension	405-321-4774
www.oces.okstate.edu/cleveland	
Health & Wellness Educational Seminars	405-307-5730
Meets 6 PM every 3 rd Tuesday of the month	
(Through Norman Regional Hospital)	
Moore Norman Technology Center	405-364-5763
4701 12 th Ave. N.W. Norman, OK.	
www.mntc.edu	
Oklahoma Healthy Aging Initiative	405-271-6424
Center of Healthy Aging	
www.ouhsc.edu/ohai	
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of O	Oklahoma
http://ou.edu/outreach/olli	405-325-3488
Senior Class at OU Medical	405-271-3050
www.oumedicine.com/seniorclass	
Senior Vitality Norman Regional Health System	405-301-6602
EMPLOYMENT	
Experience Works (Customer Service)	405-589-9488
Workforce	405-701-2000
Senior Community Service Employment Program	1-800-658-1466

CONGREGATE MEAL SITES

Aging Services Inc. /Norman Senior Center

405-360-1472

329 South Peters, Norman, OK

Lunch Meals are served at 11:30 Monday-Friday

Suggested donation, call for more information

No one is denied a meal because of inability to donate

Must be 60 years of age or older

Must reserve the meal by noon the day before

Aging Services Inc. /Rose Rock Villa

405-364-3710

700 North Berry, Norman, OK.

Lunch Meals are served at 11:30 Monday-Friday

Suggested donation, call for more information

No one is denied a meal because of inability to donate

Must be 60 years of age or older

Must reserve the meal by noon the day before

Aging Services Inc. / Noble Senior Citizen Center

405-872-5921

Highway 77 and Maguire Road, Noble, OK.

Lunch Meals are served at 11:30 Monday-Friday

Suggested donation, call for more information

No one is denied a meal because of inability to donate

Must be 60 years of age or older

Must reserve the meal by noon the day before

Aging Services Inc. / Brand Senior Center

405-793-9069

501 East Main Street Moore, OK.

Lunch Meals are served 11:30-12:00 Monday-Friday

Suggested donation, call for more information

No one is denied a meal because of inability to donate

Must be 60 years of age or older

Must reserve the meal by noon the day before

Aging Services Inc. / Eastlake Cumberland Presbyterian Church

700 South West 134th, Oklahoma City, OK.

405-691-0339

Lunch Meals are served at 11:30 Monday-Friday

Suggested donation, call for more information

No one is denied a meal because of inability to donate

60 years of age or older, \$5 for people under 60

Must reserve the meal by noon the day before

First Baptist Church

405-321-1753

211 West Comanche, Norman, OK.

1st and 3rd Sunday of every month 4pm-5pm

Spiritual Guidance may be provided

Food and Shelter

405-360-4954

104 West Comanche, Norman, OK.

Breakfast is served from 7:00am until 8:00am Monday-Friday Lunch is served from 11:00am until 12:00noon Monday-Friday

No screening or eligibility requirements

Salvation Army of Norman

405-364-9910

318 E. Hayes, Norman, OK.

Breakfast is served from 7:00am until 8:00am everyday Dinner is served from 5:00pm until 6:00pm everyday

FOOD PANTRIES

Alameda Baptist Church

405-329-5157

1503 East Alameda, Norman, OK.

Tuesday and Thursday by appointment only

Call before 8:30am on the day you want food

Your call will be returned at 9:30 for an appointment

Must live in Norman or Noble city Limits

Need photo ID with Norman address and date of birth for all family members

Available 3 times a year with at least 30 days apart.

Alameda Church of Christ

405-321-0788

801 East Alameda, Norman, OK.

Wednesday 10am-12:30noon

Fourth Thursday of the month 5:30pm-7:30pm

Second Saturday 9-Noon

Must be a Norman resident with a photo ID

Birth Certificate needed for each child

Limited to 6 times a year with at least 30 days in between visits Prefer every other month

Cross Pointe Church

405-329-0823

24thSE and Highway 9, Norman, OK.

Fridays 10:30am-12:00noon

Must be a resident of Cleveland or McLain counties

Bring photo ID and birth certificate for any children living in the home

Available 4 times a year or every 6 weeks

List all members of the household, there will be 6 meals provided

First Baptist Church

405-321-1753

211 West Comanche, Norman, OK.

3rd Sunday each month 4:30pm-5:30pm

Cleveland County residents only

Bring photo ID

First Baptist Church of Lexington

405-527-6758

900 East Broadway, Lexington, OK.

Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm

Call before you come

Must be a Lexington resident with ID

Can access once every 90 days

First Baptist Church of Noble

405-872-3529

330 East Chestnut, Noble, OK

Mondays and Thursdays 1:30pm-3pm

Noble residents only-must live west of 96th and north of

Cemetery Road

Bring photo ID and proof of residence

Available every 30 days

Hilltop Baptist Church

405-794-0603

11710 E Stella Rd, Norman, OK.

Monday and Thursday from 9:30am-12noon and Saturday 9am-11am

ID required with correct address

Must live within a 12 mile radius of Church

Available every 30 days

Little Axe Community Center

405-292-9770

1000 168th Ave NE, Norman, OK.

Monday through Friday 8am-5pm

Serves people living in the Little Axe school district

Must have food stamp card for proof of assistance

McFarlin Methodist Church

405-321-3484

419 South University, Norman, OK.

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00am-11:00am and 1:00pm-4:00pm Need photo ID with current address

Available every 2 weeks

Available to residents of Noble, Norman and Little Axe

Mission Norman

405-321-8886

2525 East Lindsey Street, Norman, OK.

www.missionnorman.org

Mondays- 10:00am-12:45pm

Tuesdays-Fridays – 10:00-2:00pm

Anyone in need is eligible

Bring ID to first visit and Driver's License or state IDs for all who reside in household

Available every 30 days

Emergency boxes with two days of food are available within the first 30 days after receiving a pantry pack

Spiritual Guidance may be provided

Salvation Army of Norman

405-364-9910

318 East Hayes, Norman, OK.

Monday-Thursday 1pm-3pm

Must be a Cleveland County resident

Photo ID for all adults in home, proof of residency, proof

income or DHS award letter

Available once every 30 days

Seventh Day Adventist Church

405-366-7772

1818 Alameda, Norman, OK.

Tuesdays 9am-12noon

Everyone is eligible

Need ID and income verification

South Canadian Church of Christ

405-364-4051

2217 24th Avenue, Norman, OK.

Second Thursday of the month 10:00-11:00am or call for an appointment

Trinity Baptist Church

405-321-2000

801 North Peters, Norman, OK.

Wednesdays 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Available to Norman and Noble residents

Bring an ID and a proof of residency

Westside Church of Christ

405-329-0392

726 McGee, Norman, OK.

Wednesday or Thursday by appointment only, please call ahead Bring photo ID

Available two times a year

FOOD STAMPS

Oklahoma Department of Human Services

631 East Robinson, Norman, OK. 405-573-8300

2507 N. Shields, Moore, OK. 405-912-2000

Available to low income, low asset senior adults

Amount of Food Stamps is determined by income and number of people residing in household

Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm

GROCERY DELIVERY

Wright's Family Market 405-321-0701

There is a \$12 delivery fee

Walmart Neighborhood Market 405-515-7418

HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Meals on Wheels of Norman

405-321-7272

P.O. Box 1371, Norman, OK.

www.mealsonwheelsnorman.com

Hot, nutritious meals including special diets delivered between 11:00am and 12:30pm Monday - Friday.

Fee – ability to pay, sliding scale, income screening required for reduced cost meals

Eligibility – III, disabled, senior Norman residents

Service area - Norman City Limits

Frozen specialized meals available to those in need outside of limits

Aging Services Inc.

405-321-3200

1149 East. Main, Norman, Ok.

Suggested donation, call for more information

No one is denied a meal because of inability to donate

Must be 60 years of age or older

Must reside in Cleveland County

Must be assessed by an ASI Outreach Worker and found to be homebound

Meals are delivered to homes between 11:00 am and 12:00 noon each day Monday through Friday.

HEALTH SERVICES

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Health Clinic	405-878-5850
Cleveland County Health Dept.	405-321-4048

250 12th N.E., Norman, OK.

Variety Care 405-632-6688

Hospice CareContact your health care provider for referralsHome HealthContact your health care provider for referralsLife Alert800-900-5237Mary Mahoney Memorial Health Center, Spencer OK.405-769-3301

Medicaid Waiver Program, OKDHS – ASD 800-435-4711

Non-Medical Personal Care Assistance or Private Duty

Contact your health care provider for referrals

Norman Regional Health System 405-307-1000

900 N. Porter, Norman, OK.

Physician Referral

The Community Call Center offers referrals to physicians only.

NRHS CommunityCall@nrh-ok.com or 405-307-3176

DENTAL

Variety Care	405-632-6688
D-Dent	405-424-8092
OU College of Dentistry	405-271-7744
Mary Mahoney Memorial Health Center, Spencer OK	405-769-3301

PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE

Prescriptions Assistance Program, Rx Oklahoma405-701-2071Generic Prescription opportunitieswww.rxaminer.com

www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/drugsatfda

Familywize discount Rx card, United Way of Norman 405-329-2025

http://www.unitedwaynorman.org/

Dave's Healthmart Pharmacy 405-360-8882

329 N Porter Ave, Norman, OK	
Prescription delivery, small fee may apply	
Doctor's Park Pharmacy	405-364-5020
500 E Robinson St #200, Norman, OK	
Prescription delivery, small fee may apply	
Ken's Walgreens Pharmacy	405-321-1445
808 N Porter Ave, Norman, OK	
Prescription delivery and blister packing	
Legend Care Pharmacy	405-321-5300
2600 Technology Pl., Norman, OK	
Bubble packing and color coding packing	
Physicians and Surgeons Pharmacy	405-364-5222
900 N Porter, Norman, OK	
Prescription delivery	
Thunder Discount Drug	405-212-3177
2296 W Main St., Norman, OK	
Discount prices for patients with no insurance	e
HEARING and VISION	
Dean McGee Eye Institute	405-271-6060
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services	405-951-3400
Hearing and Vision	1-800-845-8476
SCHAP – The Senior Citizen Hearing Program	800-487-4042
ů č	For an application
HOSPITALS	
Moore Medical Center	405-793-9355
Norman Regional Health System	405-307-1000
Norman Regional Health System	405-307-6900
Healthplex, 3400 W Tecumseh	
Oklahoma Wound Care Center	405-307-6955
HOME REPAIR/WEATHERIZATION	
Norman Housing Rehabilitation	405-366-5322

HOUSEKEEPING

Aging Services Inc.

405-321-3200

1149 E. Main, Norman, OK.

Service is available on a county wide basis, the United Way of Norman funds these services in the Norman area.

Suggested donation for the service.

Service is 1 hour and 40 minutes in length.

Must be at least 60 years of age.

Must be assessed by an ASI Outreach Worker.

Based on the assessment, the service is provided once every 4 weeks or every other week.

HOUSING/ Subsidized

N	oble Senior Citizens Village	405-872-9442
	606 Maguire Road, Noble, OK. 73068	
N	orman Housing Authority	405-329-0933
	Section-8 and low rent programs	
N	orthcliff Gardens	405-579-1552
	1301 Northcliff Ave., Norman, OK. 73071	
R	ose Rock Villa and Public Housing	405-329-0933
	700 N. Berry Road, Norman, OK. 73069	
S	avannah House of Norman	405-329-2450
	1111 24 th Ave., S.W., Norman, OK. 73069	
	Small pets allowed.	
S	avannah House of Norman II	405-294-7924
	2500 Meadow Wood Blvd., Norman, OK. 73071	
	Small pets allowed.	
S	enior Cottages of Norman	405-292-7714
	2901 Oak Tree, Norman, OK. 73072	
S	outhwind Senior Citizens Village	405-872-0700
	601 S. 8 [™] St., Noble, OK. 73068	
W	/illows and Pathways Apartments	405-364-1224
	517 N. University, Norman, OK.	
	Scattered sites	
W	/yndam Place Senior Residences	405-310-2266
	301 Triad Village Dr., Norman, OK. 73071	
	62 and over	

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITIES

Arbor House Assisted Living	405-292-9200
4501 W. Main, Norman, OK. 73072	
1 room suites; meals; personal care; medication	n assistance;
scheduled limo transportation. Small pets allow	ved with deposit.
Locally owned and operated.	-
Brookdale Senior Living Solutions	866-487-4280
1701 Alameda St, Norman, OK. 73071	
Grace Living	
201 48 th Ave. S.W., Norman, OK.73072	405-366-8800
Rambling Oaks Assisted Living	405-360-4755
1060 Rambling Oaks Dr., Norman, OK. 73072	
A Good Neighbor Care Center	
Rivermont Retirement Community	405-360-0606
800 Canadian Trails Dr., Norman, OK. 73072	
Private & shared apts.; full service dining; person	al care services;
transportation.	
SKILLED NURSING HOME	
Brookhaven Extension Center	405-322-5659
1050 Rambling Oaks Dr., Norman, OK. 73072	
Cedar Creek Nursing Center	405-329-6771
600 24 th Ave SW Norman, OK 73069	
Grace Living Center	405-366-8800
201 48 th Ave SW, Norman, OK. 73072	
Holiday Heights Nursing Home	405-321-7932
301 E Dale St., Norman, OK 73069	
Medical Park West	405-321-2188
3110 Healthplex Dr., Norman, OK. 73072	
Noble Nursing Center	405-872-7102
1501 N 8 th St., Noble, OK. 73068	
MEMORY CARE	
Arbor House Reminisce	405-310-2499
151 48 th Ave. S.W., Norman, OK. 73072	
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Reflections Alzheimer's and Memory Care, Rivermont

800 Canadian Trails Dr., Norman, OK

405-360-0606

RETIREMENT HOMES

Rivermont Retirement Community

405-360-0606

800 Canadian Trails Dr., Norman, OK. 73072

INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

AARP 405-701-2600

Norman Central Library

Electronic filing only

AARP 405-329-4200

Norman Senior Citizens Center

Individuals 55+

Call for appointment

MyFreeTaxes.com

OU School of Law – VITA

Bring a valid ID for you and your dependents and all supporting tax documents to the Norman Public Library any Wednesday or Thursday before April 15 from 6 to 8 p.m.

United Way of Norman & CSBI

405-329-2025

CSBI Building E Wing 2^{nd} floor 1155 E Main, Norman, OK Walk-ins only

Documents You Will Need to Provide:

Photo ID, W-2's, 1099, 1098's

Social Security cards for all family members

Health Insurance documentation (Form 1095-A, Form 1095-B or Form 1095-C)

All other tax related documents

INSURANCE COUNSELING

MAP- Medicare Assistance Program www.map.oid.ok.gov

405-521-6628

LEGAL	
Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma	405-360-6631
LIBRARIES	
Cleveland Co. Genealogical Society Library	405-701-2100
1119 E. Main, Norman, OK.	
Moore Public Library	405-793-5100
225 South Howard, Moore, OK.	
Noble Public Library	405-872-5713
204 N. 5 th Street, Noble, OK.	
Norman Public Library	405-701-2600
225 N. Webster, Norman, OK.	
Norman Public Library West	
300 Norman Center Ct, Norman, OK.	405-701-2644
Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handica	pped
OK Department of Rehabilitation Services	405-521-3514
Visual Services Division	
300 NE 18th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105	
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT/ LENDING CLOSET	
MEDICAL EQUITMENT/ LENDING CLOSET	
Aging Services Inc.	405-321-3200
Progressive Independence	405-321-3203
MENTAL HEALTH	
	_
A Chance to Change Counseling Service	405-840-9000
Al-Anon 24 hr. hotline	405-767-9071
Alcoholics Anonymous (hotline)	405-524-1100
Central Oklahoma Community Mental Health,	405-360-5100
909 E. Alameda, Norman, OK.	
Central Oklahoma Alzheimer's Association,	405-319-0780
2123 N. Classen Blvd. OKC, OK.	

Griffin Memorial Hospital,

Heartline

900 E. Main St., Norman, OK. Acute psychiatric services

405-573-6623

2-1-1

848-CARE(2273) **Inspirations** 405-579-4700 Intensive Outpatient Counseling Program, Norman Regional Medical Center, Norman, OK. **Norman Addiction Information & Counseling** 405-321-0022 215 W. Linn St., Norman, OK. **Red Rock Crisis Center** 405-573-6466 900 E. Main St., Norman, OK. A mental health crisis intervention facility RECREATION **Brand Senior Center** 405-799-3130 Moore Council on Aging 501 E. Main, Moore, OK. **Norman Senior Citizens Center** 329 S. Peters, Norman, OK. 405-329-4200 **Little Axe Community Center** 168th & Highway 9, Norman, OK. 405-292-9770 The Health Club 3720 W. Robinson, Norman, OK. 405-329-5050 **YMCA** 1350 Lexington Avenue, Norman, OK. 405-364-9622 SUPPORT GROUPS Alzheimer's Support Group, Full Circle 405-447-2955 Full Circle Adult Day Center 1304 Lindsey Plaza Dr, Norman, OK Meets at 6:00 PM fourth Thursday of the month Alzheimer's Support Group, McFarlin Church 405-321-3484 Meets 11:30 AM- 1 PM every 3rd Wednesday of the month **Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous** 405-321-0022 Norman Addiction Information and Counseling Services

Community Services Building 1183 E Main Norman, OK.

Caregiver Fundamentals Program

Caregiver Support Group

Sunbeam Family Services

Full Circle Adult Day Center

405-528-7721

405-447-2955

Meets at noon first Tuesday of the month

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

405-609-6551

Generations Church

1433 W Boyd, Norman, OK

3rd Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

Childcare Provided

Grief Recovery Program

405-579-8565

(sponsored by Heartland Hospice)

Grief Share Group

405-321-0788

Alameda Church of Christ, 801 East Alameda

L.I.F.T. - Living Information for Today

405-321-6000

Widows and widowers, Need reservations

Meets every fourth Thursday at Primrose Funeral Service 1109 N. Porter, Norman, OK.

Parkinson's Support Group

405-364-4493

(Held at Norman Regional Hospital)

TRANSPORTATION

CARTaccess, Norman

405-325-5438

Disabled and elderly, application must be completed and turned in. Requires documentation from medical services provider.

www.ridecart.com

C.O.T.S, Shawnee

405-275-6060

http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/transit/s5311/centralok.htm

Delta Public Transit

405-756-1100

Garvin, McClain, and Parts of Cleveland County http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/transit/s5311/delta.htm

Embark

405-297-2583

For Seniors (age 60+)

Transportation from Moore/northern Cleveland County to medical appointments in the OKC area

Embark Plus, OKC

405-235-7433

Disabled and elderly, application must be completed and turned in. Requires documentation from medical services provider.

www.embarkok.com

Direct Pickup

405-292-3808

Paperwork must be complete

Kiwanis Kruiser, Aging Services, Inc.

405-321-3200

Transportation for persons 60 and over & disabled. Schedule in advance. Medical, shopping, etc. Norman area only

Medride - Assisted Transportation

405-685-8267

Statewide Transit Information

Oklahoma Department of Transportation

Transit Programs Division 405-521-2584

http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/transit/pdfs/2010dir.pdf

Sooner Ride 877-404-4500

Veterans

American Legion	http://normanpost88.org
Norman Veterans Center	405-360-5600
Suicide Prevention/Veterans Crisis Line	1-800-273-8255
Veterans Corner, Inc.	www.veteranscorner.net

Volunteer

Full Circle Adult Day Center	405-447-2955
Meals on Wheels of Norman	405-321-7272
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)	405-701-2162

OTHER RESOURCES

Area Agency on Aging (call 800-677-1116 or see www.eldercare.gov to get your local number)

Heartline, 2-1-1

Savvy Senior, savvysenior.org

Beware of Fraud

Senior Citizens are especially vulnerable to consumer fraud. If you live on a fixed income, you are looking for ways to extend your limited dollars. Consumer fraud is when consumers actually lose money due to illegal practices. Other fraud may involve deception and sales tactics which mislead or pressure consumers into buying goods or services they don't need.

The areas of fraud where consumers are more vulnerable are health, telemarketing, mail order, investments, credit card fraud, credit repair, insurance, home improvement, home maintenance and auto repair.

If you receive a call that claims you owe money or have a virus on your computer, look up the number on the internet and you will be able to find out if it is a scam or not. The IRS will never call you!

Home repair schemes take millions of consumer dollars each year. Don't become a victim of home repair, follow these tips:

- Beware of door-to-door contractors who use high-pressure or scare tactics to get you to make an immediate decision.
- DON'T do business with someone who comes to your door offering a bargain because he says he has materials left over from another job.
- It is always a good idea to get 3 opinions and estimates for any home repairs. DON'T always go with the lowest bidder. Most of the complaints to the DA's office are for contractors with very low bids. You get what you pay for.
- Don't pay money in advance. Some smaller contractors may ask for money to pay for supplies, but you should pay no more than 25% up front, and then pay the balance ONLY when you are satisfied with the complete job.
- Ask the contractor to show you proof that he is bonded, carries liability insurance, and covers his workers with workman's compensation insurance.
- Does the contractor have a business card with a verifiable street address and office phone number? Be cautious of P.O. boxes and answering machines/pagers only. CHECK the information!
- Call the Better Business Bureau for a report on the contractor.
- Require the contractor to use a written contract that lists materials to be used, as well as charges and costs, and the completion date.

 DON'T make final payment until you have received a "lien waiver" that shows the contractor has paid his subcontractors and suppliers. Unpaid workers or vendors could put a lien on your home. If you sell or refinance, they will take their payment out of your equity.

Personal Emergency Response Systems

Personal Emergency Response Systems can be lifesavers for people who live alone, or are frequently home alone. Most systems consist of a button that can be worn as a pendant around the neck or on a wristband. Pressing the button sends a signal via a toll-free phone number to a national monitoring center. The monitor then contacts the subscriber and/or their designated responders (family members, neighbors, 911) and maintains contact until help arrives. Subscribers pay an installation/equipment fee and a monthly fee for the monitoring. There are also specialized devices which do not involve a monthly subscriber fee. These have the advantage of having no monitoring cost, and the disadvantage of having no monitor to assist in determining whether a 911 call is necessary, or to summon other help if preferred. Call your local hospital and/or doctor to get information on choices for this valuable service

<u>Things to Consider</u> (Information adapted from Bonnie Lawrence)

Advance Health Care Directive (AHCD)

What it does: This gives power to a person you designate to make health care decisions for you, ONLY IF you can't speak for yourself

POLST/DNR

What it does: Stands for Physicians Order for Life Sustaining Treatment

Durable Power of Attorney for Finances

What it does: Allows someone to access your finances, e.g., checking account, investments or property in order to pay your bills.

Will

What it does: Says how you want your estate (money and belongings) to be dispersed to family, friends, organizations, etc. after you die.

Trusts

What it does: A trust creates a legal entity that holds your assets for you so that your estate does not have to go through probate when you die.

Final Arrangements

What it does: Specifies what you would like to happen after your death - whether you would like cremation or burial – and lets the family know. Also lets loved ones know your wishes regarding organ donation and other special arrangements.

Beneficiary Forms

Bank accounts, investments, insurance, and retirement plans can be designated as "payable on death" to a named beneficiary, which means the funds don't have to go through probate.

Have a central place for wills, trusts, powers of attorney, etc. or a document describing where they are so family members will know where to find these.

 Include information about your Social Security number, safe deposit box, birth certificate, life insurance, contact information for attorney and other important details.

More Information and Resources

- Mayo Clinic Consumer Health: Living Wills and Advance Directives
- Consumer Reports What to do when a loved one dies
- National Association of Area Agencies on Aging Having the conversation about Health, Legal, Financial and End-of-life Issues
- American Bar Association Commission on Legal Problems of the Elderly
- Compassion & Choices www.compassionandchoices.org
- National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys www.naela.com