
ACCREDITED HEALTH SERVICES

Backgrounder on *Homecare: The Transition from Natural Independence to Assisted Independence*

Since its inception in 1979, Accredited Health Services (AHS) – a leading homecare organization – has helped over 200,000 people and their families make the transition from natural independence to assisted independence. The most profound lesson learned in all these years of experience is that solving the emotional piece of the homecare puzzle is just as important as finding solutions to the physical and practical needs that arise in this time of transition.

Three major market forces are pushing demand for healthcare solutions for America’s seniors. First, Baby Boomers are reaching senior status causing a profound demographic shift in the number of Americans 65 and older. Secondly, healthcare in this country is prolonging life for Americans; however greater longevity also brings more need for care. Thirdly, the changing dynamic of the American family over the past 50 years has seen a steep increase in divorce and a far greater propensity for kids to grow up and move far from home. This is leaving many more seniors alone in the later years of their lives.

With these issues in mind, AHS created a 30-minute presentation called ***Homecare: The Transition from Natural Independence to Assisted Independence***. This presentation, and the workbook that goes with it, starts by dealing with the emotions that, when left unaddressed, are the one thing that can truly impede a family from making sound decisions for a loved one during this highly-charged time of life.

AHS has found that getting to the heart of the matter this way is a critical first step that makes the rest of the process flow more easily. Ultimately, it enables people to avoid a lot of roadblocks that arise as families go through various stages of denial, anger and fear. We can help pave the way for people to arrive at the best solutions for loved ones and their families. The presentation is also full of valuable tools and information that help address the practical and physical challenges that come with aging.

This presentation on homecare offers insight and answers to both “sides” of the homecare issue. On one side are the mechanics of “how to” determine if homecare is a good solution for you and your family. On the other side of the homecare issue, which is typically the hardest part, gives practical advice that offers comfort and relief from the emotional tension felt by everyone involved in making tough decisions about care for an aging loved one. Participants in this presentation will learn that they are not alone as they wrestle with the heartwrenching issues that are part of life at this stage. Those who attend the presentation scheduled at community centers around the area will come away from it armed with empowering information that deals with both sides of this issue. It is unlike any other homecare education program available today.