

Looking for Assisted Living Options?

A GUIDE FOR FINDING THE RIGHT SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY





The decision to move to a senior community can be a big one. For many—especially those who value a secure setting that provides opportunities for socialization and promotes a healthy, active lifestyle—the answer is an assisted living community. To make the best decision to serve your needs, it's important to understand the options available to you.

Throughout this guide we'll provide information on the different types of senior living options, benefits of an assisted living community, share tips on finding the community best suited to you or your loved one, address popular misconceptions, and advise you on the most probing questions to ask during your search.

Our goal is simple: We want you to choose confidently and live happily.



Understanding Your Options

Senior living options differ greatly and offer various levels of care.

Continuing Care Retirement Communities

Continuing Care Retirement Communities or CCRCs offer a full range of residential and health services within the same community. As residents' health needs change, they can access additional levels of care to suit them. CCRCs can be more expensive upfront than other senior living options.

Independent Living Communities

Independent living communities are often condominiums or apartment buildings that offer security and accessible care by providing a nurse call system to request assistance if needed. They also provide home maintenance and housekeeping, engaging activities, diverse food venues and a variety of other amenities.

Assisted Living Communities

Assisted living communities offer many of the services and amenities of independent living with the additional benefit of care provided by licensed nurses and caregivers, based on how much assistance with the activities of daily living is needed. Care includes making sure residents take daily medications, supporting residents who experience memory loss and assisting with housekeeping, dressing and hygiene.

Care Centers for Memory Impairments

Many communities also offer a secure and safe neighborhood designed specifically for those suffering from the effects of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. These communities provide a secure environment with programs to assist residents in being as social and active as possible with specialized activities and therapies.



Visiting a Community

Once you've identified the communities available in your area with the services you seek, it is important to go visit, tour and see for yourself what the community is like. It is also important to know what to look for and the right questions to ask.

The checklists on the following pages will provide you with important considerations to explore and questions to ask as you begin your research process. You'll be better prepared to help your loved one make the right decisions for themselves.



Community Overview & Observations

As you tour the community, think through the following questions and take notes on your observations.

CONSIDERATION	NOTES
Does the community feel warm and welcoming?	
Is the community well-lit? Clean? Nicely furnished?	
Is the staff knowledgeable and caring?	
Is the community designed and built to accommodate the needs of seniors?	
Who manages the community and what is their experience with senior living?	
Is the community pet friendly?	



Medical, Health & Wellness Support

Having confidence in the medical and health and wellness capabilities of a community is one of the key factors to consider when looking for assisted living options. Ask the following questions as you compare your options.

CONSIDERATION	NOTES
How are medical concerns handled?	
Are rehabilitation services available on-site?	
What programs are in place to support overall wellness?	
Does the community provide 24 hour nursing on site?	
Is there a physician available on site?	



Opportunities for Engagement

Socialization has proven to be one of the biggest factors in keeping seniors healthy and happy. It is important to identify a community that values engagement and encourages residents to get involved by offering a variety of opportunities.

CONSIDERATION	NOTES
What types of activities are available such as clubs, classes, day trips?	
What opportunities are there for social interaction amongst the residents?	
Is there a transportation system available to the residents and how does it work?	
Does the community provide areas for socialization (i.e. movie room, lounge, pub)? Is there access to outdoor areas for resident use?	



Apartment Size & Amenities

Living options typically range from studios to two-bedrooms. Be sure to ask to see a model of an apartment that closely fits the type you are looking for, and ask these questions as well.

CONSIDERATION	NOTES
What is the size range of the apartments?	
What amenities are standard in each apartment?	
What are the apartment's safety features?	
Are bathrooms handicap accessible?	



Security & Safety

Security and safety is likely one of the primary reasons that you are looking for a senior living community. The following questions are important to consider and compare as you conduct your research.

CONSIDERATION	NOTES
What are the security features of the community?	
What safety procedures are in place for the protection of the residents?	
What happens in the event of a medical emergency?	



Application Process & Fees

Pricing structures and application processes can vary drastically between communities. Understanding the basics of the process upfront will help make it a little easier and less stressful. Be sure to address the following questions in your search.

CONSIDERATION	NOTES
How does the fee structure work?	
What is included in the fee and what services are priced a la carte?	
What is the application and move-in process?	



Personalized service and care. **Unparalleled value.**

As you explore senior living options, we invite you to take a closer look at The Brielle at Seaview, a non-profit community, nestled in a natural wooded oasis right on Staten Island. We offer assisted living and memory care on a 10-acre campus that's comfortably removed from the surrounding noise and hectic pace. It's an idyllic setting where you can enjoy walking paths, wildlife and our wooded surroundings.

At The Brielle at Seaview, what matters to you, matters to us. With a family atmosphere, we provide residents and staff with a welcoming environment of mutual trust and respect.

The Brielle is a relaxed environment with a variety of lifestyle offerings; from Assisted Living apartments to a safe and secure Memory Care neighborhood, The Brielle offers an individualized rate structure to ensure personal needs are met. Along with a long list of included services, we also offer a-la-carte options should you desire them.

The Brielle at Seaview brings a holistic view to wellness and successful aging. Our sole purpose is to help residents live to the fullest. Here, seniors live among peers while enjoying a balance of independence and qualified, caring support.

Living here means feeling engaged, honored and fulfilled regardless of physical or emotional challenges. This approach permeates every facet of service and care at The Brielle. From care services and dining to housekeeping, we're 100% committed to residents' safety, health and well-being.

You are invited to visit The Brielle at Seaview to personally experience our community. To schedule a tour, please call 929-256-3005 today.

Sincerely,

Kathy Azbell, LMSW

Director of Community Relations





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