



The
Assisted
Living
Guide
for
Carbon County

A Public Service from the
Elder Law Firm of Marshall & Associates
Jersey Shore ♦ Williamsport ♦ Wilkes-Barre
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An Introduction to the *Assisted Living Guide*

Today's seniors can look forward to living longer, healthier, and more independent lives. But at some point in our lives many of us may begin to need some help with the activities of daily living. Most people who need a little assistance continue to live at home. But sometimes, the support and supervision required is just more than the family can provide.

Until recent years, seniors who could no longer live safely at home had few choices of care settings. The main option to home care was placement in a skilled nursing facility. Fortunately, this is no longer the case. Today there are a number of housing alternatives that can offer seniors the chance to get the assistance they need in a supervised residential setting that is more comfortable and homelike than a nursing facility. This can enhance quality of life and allow the senior to retain as much independence as possible.

"The purpose of this Assisted Living Guide is to help seniors and their families understand their choices"

These new residential options include various types of personal care homes and assisted living facilities. In addition to providing housing, they also provide meals, personal care services and supportive services to older persons who are no longer able to live at home. Personal care homes and assisted living facilities may be appropriate options for those who need assistance with activities of daily living, but do not require continuous nursing care.

The purpose of this Assisted Living Guide is to help seniors and their families understand their choices when they are considering assisted living as an option. The

"Today there are a number of housing alternatives that can offer seniors the chance to get the assistance they need."

Guide contains a listing of the assisted living facilities in the county along with some important basic information on each. It was prepared by the staff of the Elder Law Firm of Marshall & Associates to help our clients decide which residential options may work best for them. We are happy to share it with the community at large and we hope it will help you.

For over 20 years Marshall & Associates has helped Pennsylvania seniors understand their choices and make the right decisions about long term care. Call us if you have questions about Medicaid, Medicare, home care options, estate recovery, or any of the many other complicated

issues that confront a family when a loved one needs long term care. We provide that extra knowledge, experience, service, and compassion that can make all the difference in the world in helping you achieve your goals.

In our Guide, we have included facilities of all shapes and sizes - from the small, family-operated personal care home to the large national chain assisted living facility. We have tried our best to make the listings as accurate and up to date as possible. But the reader should understand that inaccuracies are possible and that facilities change their policies, costs, and services from time to time. A copy of this Guide is available on our website at www.paelderlaw.com. When we receive updated information it will be available online first, so you may want to visit our website for the most current information.

If you are the administrator of an assisted living facility and you would like to update your information, or if you have any questions or comments about the Guide, please e-mail Melissa at mbottorf@paelderlaw.com or call her at 570-321-9008.

At-A-Glance Comparison Chart

for

Carbon County, PA

2004-2005	Monthly Cost Range	Accept SSI Payments?	Is Nursing Staff Available?	Secured Alzheimer's Unit Available?
<u>Becker's Personal Care Home</u> 17 East Front Street Jim Thorpe, PA 18229 570-325-3268	\$1600-\$2000	YES	YES	NO
<u>Eastern Comfort Assisted Living</u> 2491 Cherry Hill Road Palmerton, PA 18071 610-852-3416	\$1050-\$1800	YES	YES	NO
<u>Edgemont Lodge Assisted Living/Personal Care</u> 22 Edgemont Road Lansford, PA 18232 570-645-7093	\$1350-\$2250	YES	YES	NO
<u>Heritage Hill Senior Community</u> 800 Sixth Street Weatherly, PA 18255 570-427-4500 www.heritagehillsenior.com	\$1435-\$2694	YES	YES	YES
<u>Kimmel's Personal Care Home</u> 10 East Second Street Jim Thorpe, PA 18229 570-325-5851	\$1600-\$2000	YES	YES	NO
<u>Mahoning Valley Retirement Village</u> 397 Hemlock Drive Lehighton, PA 18235 570-386-5919 www.mvnrc.com	\$1500-\$2490	YES	YES	NO

<u>Mapleshade Meadows Assisted Living Facility</u> 50 East Locust Street Nesquehoning, PA 18240 670-669-5500	Case-By-Case Basis	NO	YES	NO
<u>Renee's Countryside Farm Personal Care Home</u> 1305 Church Drive Palmerton, PA 18071 610-681-3400	\$1440-\$1950	NO	YES	NO
<u>The Village at Palmerton</u> 71 Princeton Avenue Palmerton, PA 18071 610-824-7406 www.thevillageatpalmerton.com	\$1372-\$2745	YES	YES	NO

** Each facility has different rules and regulations regarding residents receiving SSI payments. For more information, please see the facility's detailed description below.*

Becker's Personal Care Home

17 East Front Street
Jim Thorpe, PA 18829
570-325-3268

General Information:

Becker's Personal Care Home has been in business for 30 years. The facility has 3 private and 5 semi-private rooms. Residents are permitted to bring their own furnishings.

Services:

Becker's Personal Care Home offers group activities for residents including an organized activities program with a posted schedule of daily events. Transportation is provided by van to doctor's appointments and shopping.

Becker's can accommodate special diets such as diabetic and pureed. Residents may choose their own doctor and pharmacy. A nurse is available during day and evening shifts.

Administrative:

Becker's Personal Care Home is a for-profit facility with full licensing. They are not associated with a hospital or nursing home. A deposit is required, but refundable and the deposit will be used towards the monthly fee. Becker's operates on monthly agreements and they ask residents to give a 30-day written notice before leaving. SSI Supplemental payments are accepted for semi-private rooms.

Eastern Comfort Assisted Living

2491 Cherry Hill Road
Palmerton, PA 18071
610-852-3416
Last Visited: 11-18-04

General Information:

Eastern Comfort Assisted Living is a for-profit facility that has been in operation for 83 years. They offer 72 beds, including 13 private rooms. They are also associated with Palmerton Hospital.

Residents may bring their own furnishings. Smoking by residents is permitted outside in a monitored area. They also welcome any family and guests who would like to join residents at mealtime. Eastern Comfort has an organized activities program that is posted daily.

Services:

Eastern Comfort offers respite and adult day care services. They also offer physical, occupational and speech therapy to residents. Transportation is available to doctor's appointments and shopping.

At Eastern Comfort, residents can choose their own doctor and pharmacy. Nursing staff is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Administrative:

Eastern Comfort is a fully licensed Personal Care Home. They are associated with Palmerton Hospital, although they have no affiliation or preferred referral discharge arrangements with any local nursing homes.

If it is suspected that a resident may need more care than can be provided, the Administrator will evaluate the resident and decide whether placement elsewhere may be more appropriate.

Monthly fees include the cost of cable and laundry. They do accept SSI. If a resident depletes their funds, they will help the resident apply for SSI. There is an agreement signed upon admission where residents will provide a 30 day written notice before moving.

Edgemont Lodge Assisted Living/Personal Care

22 Edgemont Road

Lansford, PA 18232

570-645-7093

Last Visited: 12-17-04

General Information:

Edgemont Lodge has been in operation for 20 years. They are a fully licensed Personal Care Home with 41 beds, some of which include a private bathroom.

Residents are permitted to bring furnishings from home, including a small refrigerator. They are also permitted to smoke outside in a monitored area.

Services:

Edgemont Lodge offers respite care and they will also accept residents with Stage I and Stage II dementia. Physical, occupational and speech therapies are also available on-site.

The facility offers residents an organized activities program that is posted daily. Some of these activities include trips and on-site religious services. Transportation is also available to residents for doctor's appointments and shopping. Residents may have guests dine with them and a private dining room is available for special events.

Residents may choose their own doctor and pharmacy. Nursing staff is available during all shifts.

Administrative:

Edgemont Manor is a for-profit home associated with St. Luke's Hospital in Coaldale. If it is suspected that a resident may need more care than can be provided, the Administrator will evaluate the resident and decide whether placement elsewhere may be more appropriate.

At Edgemont Manor, 10 beds are allocated for SSI supplemental payments.

Heritage Hill Senior Center

800 Sixth Street

Weatherly, PA 18255

570-427-4500

www.heritagehillsenior.com

General Information:

Heritage Hill Senior Center is a for-profit facility that has been in operation for 5 years. It is managed by Millennium Health Services, Inc. They have 70 private and semi-private rooms. Each measures 12 feet by 18 feet and include a private powder room.

Residents are permitted to bring their own furnishings and pets are allowed. Internet access is also available to residents.

Services:

Heritage Hill Senior Center offers respite and adult day care. They also have a secured Alzheimer's Unit called "Shepard's Gates." Physical, occupational and speech therapy is available to residents on-site.

The Center offers a wide variety of group activities and includes outings to the mall and other daily events. Multi-denominational religious services are held on premise and transportation by van is available for doctor's appointments and shopping. Residents are encouraged to have guests dine with them and a private dining room is available for special events or a private party.

Residents are permitted to choose their own doctor and pharmacy and a nursing staff is available at all times.

Administrative:

A 4-bed unit costs \$1,435 per month and a private room costs \$2,273. To stay in the Alzheimer's Unit, the monthly cost can range between \$2,210 and \$2,694.

Heritage Hill Senior Center offers 5 levels of care. There is no additional charge for Level 1. Additional charges from Level 2 to 5 range from \$100-\$300 per month.

Upon admission, Heritage Hill Senior Center discusses different payment options for residents including Veteran Pension, Income Limits and other aid available. If funds are depleted and full payments can no longer be made, residents can apply for one of 8 female SSI beds to help cover the cost of their care and will oftentimes move into a less expensive room.

Kimmel's Personal Care Home

10 East Second Street
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
570-325-5851

General Information:

Kimmel's, a licensed Personal Care Home, is for-profit. They have 8 private and semi-private rooms. Residents may bring their own furnishings if they desire.

Services:

Kimmel's Personal Care Home offers an organized activities program with a posted schedule of daily events. They also plan trips for residents and provide transportation to doctor's appointments and shopping.

Residents are permitted to choose their own doctor and pharmacy. Nursing staff is available during day and evening shifts.

Administrative:

The monthly cost range is \$1600-\$2000. A refundable deposit is required, but there are no entry fees and they ask to be given 30 days notice before moving. If a resident's level of care needs change, there is no additional monthly cost. If a resident needs more care than can be offered by Kimmel's, the owner will assess the resident and decide if he/she should move to a more skilled facility.

If funds are depleted and full payments can no longer be made, residents can apply for SSI to cover the cost of their care.

Mahoning Valley Retirement Villas

397 Hemlock Drive
Lehighton, PA 18235
570-386-5919
www.mvnrc.com

General Information:

This for-profit facility has been in operation for forty years and has 39 private and semi-private rooms. The Villas are associated with Blue Mountain Health and Saint Luke's Hospital with a 150-bed skilled nursing center on the grounds.

Residents are permitted to bring their own furnishings and internet access is available.

Services:

Mahoning Valley Retirement Villas offer respite and adult day services. If a resident requires physical, occupational or speech therapy, it is available on-site.

Wide varieties of group activities are planned daily and include in-house events and outings. Religious services are held on premises and transportation to doctor's appointments and shopping is available.

Residents are welcome to have guests dine with them and a private dining room is available for parties or special events.

Nursing staff is available 24 hours a day and residents are permitted to choose their own doctor and pharmacy.

Administrative:

Mahoning Valley Retirement Villas are fully licensed and for-profit. There are no entry fees or deposits required. Monthly fees include cable and laundry service as well. An additional charge will apply if the resident's living arrangements or level of care needs change while at the Villas. Since the facility also owns a skilled nursing unit, if a resident needs more care than what is available at the Villas, they recommend the resident moves into the nursing home.

If a resident's funds are depleted and full payments can no longer be made, the resident may move to one of 4 SSI beds that are available.

Mapleshade Meadows Assisted Living Facility

50 East Locust Street
Nesquehoning, PA 18240
570-669-5500

General Information:

Mapleshade Meadows has been in operation since August of 1999. It is a for-profit facility with 104 private and semi-private rooms.

Residents are permitted to bring their own furnishings and each room has its own private bathroom. Residents are also permitted to smoke in designated areas.

Services:

Mapleshade Meadows offers respite for individuals who need such care in excess of five days. The facility is linked directly to a wheelchair accessible physician and physical therapy office.

The facility offers a wide array of group activities including outings to malls. Religious services are held on premises, including Rosary and Bible Study every other Sunday. Residents may have guests dine with them and a private dining room is available for special events.

Transportation for residents who may need it is available through the Carbon County Area Agency on Aging.

Residents are permitted to choose their own doctor and nursing staff is available at all times. Mapleshade Meadows is coupled with Salerno's Pharmacy.

Administrative:

Monthly costs are decided on an individual basis and are determined by the Admissions staff. A \$250 non-refundable application fee is required and monthly fees include most items and services except medications, cable (\$6 per month), hairdresser and other personal needs.

Renee's Countryside Farm Personal Care

1305 Church Drive
Palmerton, PA 18071
610-681-3400
Last Visited: 11-18-04

General Information:

Renee's Countyside Farm Personal Care has been in operation for 10 years. They have 22 private and semi-private rooms, all with a private bath. Residents are permitted to bring their own furnishings and smoking is allowed outside.

Services:

Renee's offers respite care, physical, occupation and speech therapy on site. They also have an organized activities program with a posted schedule of daily events, including outside trips and Bible Study.

Residents may have guests dine with them and a private dining area is available for special events. Residents are also permitted to choose their own pharmacy and doctor. Nursing staff is available during all shifts.

Administrative:

A private room with a private bathroom costs \$65 per day while a semi-private room with a shared bathroom costs \$48 per day. There are no entry fees at Renee's Countyside Farm and rental agreements are monthly.

The Village at Palmerton

71 Princeton Avenue
Palmerton, PA 18071
610-824-7406

www.theviallgeatpalmerton.com

Last Visited: 11-18-04

General Information:

The Village at Palmerton is a for-profit facility that is affiliated with Blue Mountain Health. They have been in operation since August of 2004 and have 54 private and semi-private rooms.

Each resident room is equipped with its own private bathroom. Residents may bring their own furnishings and pets. Internet access is also available.

Services:

The Village at Palmerton offers Respite Care. If a resident requires physical, occupational or speech therapy, it is available on-site.

The facility offers a variety of group activities which are posted daily and include scheduled trips and worship services. Residents may have guests dine with them and a private area is available for parties for special events. Transportation by van is available for doctor's appointments and shopping.

Nursing staff is available 24 hours a day. Residents at The Village at Palmerton are also permitted to choose their own doctor and pharmacy.

Administrative:

The Village at Palmerton is fully licensed facility. Although a refundable deposit is required, there are no entry fees. Monthly lease agreements include cable, laundry and transportation. A limited number of beds are available for SSI Supplemental payments and depends on availability.