



## Senior Care Services.Org

[Home](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[About Us](#)

[Web Site Map](#)

[Senior Daily News Wire](#)

[Senior Housing Options](#)

### Information and Resources

Ads by Google

[Nursing Homes](#)

[Elderly Facility](#)

[Resident Rights](#)

[Dementia Resident](#)

[Senior Facility](#)

Home

[Nursing Homes: Finding a Really Great One](#)

[Nursing Homes: What critical information should I know?](#)

[Nursing Home Staff That You Should Know](#)

[Evaluating the Nursing Home Facility](#)

[Understanding the Nursing Home Contract](#)

#### **Additional Senior Articles of Interest:**

[Alzheimer's Disease](#)

[Cancer: A Death Sentence for the Elderly?](#)

[Depression among the Elderly](#)

[General Information and Referral-St. Louis, MO](#)

[Health Insurance 101 for Senior Citizens](#)

[Long term care insurance: What is it really?](#)

[Medicare: How will it help me?](#)

[Nursing Homes: What critical information should I know?](#)

[Personal Safety for Grandma and Grandpa](#)

[Prescription Medication: You have to get it right](#)

[Social Security: Can I get it now?](#)

[Senior Housing Options](#)

[Senior Care Psychological Consulting](#)

[Web Site Map](#)



## Nursing Homes: Finding a really great one

### How do you find a really good nursing home?

One of the first things you need to do is to start learning about the nursing homes in your area. Start talking to friends and family members about local long-term care facilities that they have had some experience with. You may ask your doctor for advice, or if you're at a hospital talk to the hospital social workers or discharge planners. You can probably get a nursing home list from your local agency on aging. Also, if your area has a long-term care ombudsman's program they may be very helpful. Ombudsmen are state employees who evaluate and inspect nursing homes.



Nursing homes are governed by the *Nursing Home Reform Act* which contains many of the regulations and standards that nursing homes must adhere to.

After you have had a chance to discuss local nursing homes with friends, family, doctors etc., you should then make an appointment to talk to some of the administrators and tour the facilities. Then, it would probably be a good idea to return at various different times of the day and night to see how they function on a more informal basis. Some of the questions that you should ask the nursing home administrator may include:

- What are the costs?
- Are there extra fees?
- Is Medicaid accepted as payment?
- How many Medicaid beds are available and what is the total amount?
- What is the usual employee-to-resident ratio?
- Are there separate areas of the nursing home for patients with dementia and Alzheimer's?
- What is the usual daily schedule?
- How many RN's are on duty at any given time?
- What is the total census of the long-term care facility?
- What activities are usually planned for the residents?
- Is there a family and/or resident council?
- Are there usually single rooms available?
- What are the usual visiting hours?
- What personal items are residents allowed to bring with them?
- What kind of security is available at the facility?
- What is the bedhold policy?

When you meet with the nursing home administrator you should probably ask to see the three most recent state surveys (also called inspections). Your local ombudsman may also be helpful in assisting you in attaining and understanding these documents. These surveys will help you to understand what types of problems exist at the facility. You should probably be leery if you see the same types of problems existing on a consistent basis year after year. Good nursing homes will usually make improvements based upon the survey. All

### [Nursing Home Directory](#)

Free Expert Referrals to Nursing Homes Near You. Takes 30 Seconds!  
www.aplaceformom.com

### [Electric Scooters](#)

9/10 People Had Medicare Pay for an Electric Scooter! Free Info Kit  
www.Hoveround.com/Scooter

### [Alzheimer's In Nursing Homes](#)

Get Free Information on a Trusted Alzheimer's Care Facility Near You.  
SeniorLivingSource.org/Alzheimer

### [Find Local Nursing Homes](#)

Need Help Finding a Nursing Home? Free Service with No Obligation!  
www.AssistedLiving.com

### [Woodland terrace health care](#)

Bad care in nursing homes. Bedsores. Broken bones. Call 800-255-5070.  
www.wilkesmchugh.com

nursing homes have some problems, but the purpose of the report is to identify those problems so they can be fixed.

Some information from [Senior's Rights: Your Legal Guide to Living Life to the Fullest](#) By Brette McWhorter Sember

Additional Information By [Paul Susic M.A. Licensed Psychologist Ph.D. Candidate \(Geriatric Psychologist\)](#)

[Send Page To a Friend](#)

<b>Join Our St. Louis Senior Care and/or Reduce Aging Effects Information E-mail Newsletters</b>	
Email: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Go"/>

[Find out how and why you should join the St. Louis Senior Care and/or the Reduce Aging Effects Newsletters!](#)



Web  [www.SeniorCareServices.Org](http://www.SeniorCareServices.Org)