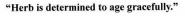


#### Welcomes you to Preparing to Age with Dignity







# PREPARING TO AGE WITH DIGNITY

 Strategies & Economics of Caring for an Adult Family Member
 June 19, 2014

- Molly Rees Gavin, President
- Gayle Kataja, Director of Community Integration and Partnerships





#### Older Adults in Connecticut

- CT has one of the oldest populations in the US--median age 40 compared to 37.2 nationwide
- 26% of CT's population will be 60 or older by 2030; it is currently 20%
- 2.4% of CT residents are over 85-about 85,000
- CT has the third highest life expectancy in US







## off the mark by Mark Parisi www.offthemark.com ALAVITC PER UPE: 3388 HATIK IPUIS Vinew, offithernark.com Mark Panni@aol.com THE LATER YEARS

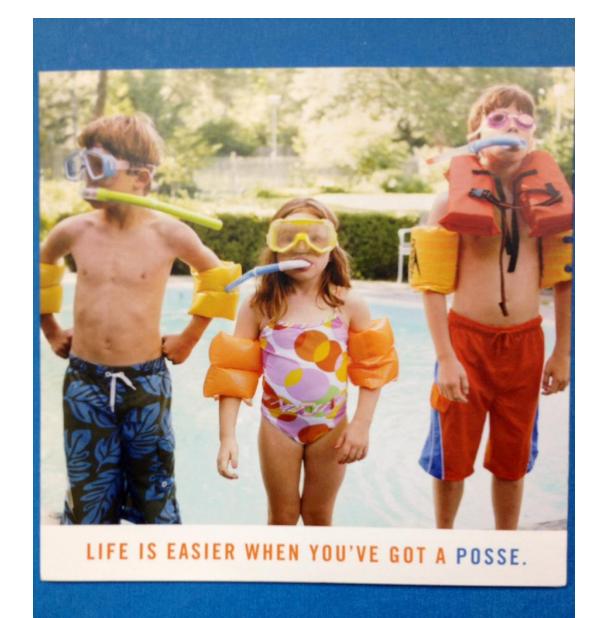
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# Aging with dignity requires that

- You have a strategy that is well thought out
- You begin the discussions at an early age
- You familiarize yourself with the resources







## So, what does a posse mean?

- Experience suggests that having a small trusted available group of people to affirm, to support and to challenge your decisions is critical
- Everyone's posse will be different and may or may not include family members or friends
- It may include professionals (doctor, APRN), religious leaders or anyone else of your choosing



## The Keys to successful aging lie with the HEIRS

Health

Environment

Insurance

Revenue

Supports



#### Health(y) aging

- Normal aging occurs in all of us
- The "BIG" three in the news:



Someone dies from CVD every 40 seconds

CVD is the #1 killer of women, more than all cancers



29 Million Americans have DM, 25% don't know it



1:3 people over 65 die with an Alzheimer's diagnosis





#### Health care providers are important

- Get a primary care provider that you know, trust and is in your health insurance plan
- Make sure that you are satisfied with the communication including being able to follow through with your advance directives
- Conversations happen before a crisis
- Ditto with the pharmacy if at all possible





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#### **ENVIRONMENT**

- Where do you want to live?
  - Your own home
  - With a family member or friend
  - Assisted living
  - Continuing care retirement community
  - Other options
- Where do you think you will live?
- Considerations:
  - Caregivers nearby?
  - Medical care including specialists?
  - Do you have enough money?
  - Is your home accessible for a wheelchair or walker?
  - Can you mow the lawn, shovel snow and make repairs?
  - Can you get to people and places that are important to you?





#### What variables are important to you?

- These will be unique for each person
- For example:
  - Privacy
  - A place to prepare your own meals
  - Having a pet of your own
  - Garage for your car or public transportation
  - Sleeping accommodations for children or grandchildren
  - Own bathroom
  - A garden or yard
  - Accessibility to whatever matters (place of worship, hairdresser, golf course)



## Living Options

- Independently in your own home/condominium
- With family or friends
- Continuing Care Retirement Community
  - Ex: Avery Heights, Duncaster, Seabury, McAuley
  - Entrance Fee and monthly fees are likely

- Assisted Living
  - Housekeeping, nursing
  - 24/7 on call staffing









## Living Options (continued)

- Nursing Home
  - Short Term Rehabilitation
    - Generally less than a 100 day stay
    - May be Medicare subsidized if skilled care is needed
  - Long Term Care
    - Permanent placement
    - 80% of elders in long term care have dementia
    - Cost for private room in this area:
       \$12,106/month, \$146,000 annually
    - Cost for a semi-private room in this area: \$11,193/month, \$134,320 annually



#### How to Choose a Nursing Home

- Use your senses: sight, hearing, smell and touch
- Is it clean, well lit?
- Are residents engaged with staff/each other?
- Are residents treated with respect?
- Are residents dressed for the time of day?
- · Rehabilitation on site?
- Are Medicare and Medicaid accepted?
- Is there a way for residents to express their views?
- Religious services offered on site?
- How far is it from you? (Refer to handout for more suggestions)





" . . . in sickness and in health, with full coverage or without . . . "



#### Insurance

Medicare

What you think it pays for generally is not what it pays for

Veteran's Benefits



Supplemental Insurance





#### Long Term Care Insurance

- LTC Insurance is one of several options for funding Long Term Care
- It should fit into your overall plan
  - The premiums may be too high to afford
  - If you have the financial means you may decide to
    - Self insure
    - Use life insurance
  - If it is affordable it could help you stay in your home
  - Also it could help protect your legacy



#### Long Term Care Insurance

#### LTC Insurance is not one-size-fits-all

- Shop around for the features you want
- If you can not afford full coverage, consider partial coverage
- Some companies offer combined Life Insurance/Long Term Care Insurance policies.

#### Connecticut Partnership Policies

- Helps you protect your assets
- Requires a policy with more robust features

#### There are a number of key points to evaluate, including but not limited to:

- · Policy coverage can vary over a range of medical, personal and social services.
- · What must happen for a policy to begin paying benefits the elimination period, coverage and exclusions.
- · The daily benefits provided and who can deliver covered services to you.
- Matching your need for long-term care with your need to protect assets and your ability to pay premiums.
- Whether you can qualify in your current state of health, how much your premium will be, how often it must be paid.
- · Your premium may increase after your purchase—can/will you keep paying it.

In-depth educational material is available from non-sales sources: websites for the CT Insurance Department and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. (Caution: Cost info is likely to be out of date.)



#### Revenue

What lifestyle do you want to maintain?

Wealth management







"ALL RIGHT THEN, WE'LL CALL YESTERDAY'S LAST WORDS."



#### Documents to Have in Place

- (Current) Will including estate planning documents
- Health Care Directives
- Plans for durable power of attorney and or conservator
- Personal Directives (who will get what that is meaningful to you)
- Make sure the right people know where the documents are!!!



#### You Know You are a Caregiver When

**PEDIATRICIAN** 

→ GERIATRICIAN

SATs

 $\rightarrow$  ADLs

**PAMPERS** 

→ DEPENDS

Because I'm the Mom, that's why

→ Because I'm the daughter, that's why



#### Supporters

- Who have you asked to take care of you or your loved one? Who knows about this?
- Caregiver stress is real (there are resources to assist)
- In 2013, 15.5 million caregivers provided an estimated 17.7 billion hours of unpaid care valued at more than \$220 billion. (Alzheimer's Assoc.)
- Informal
  - Family and Friends
  - Neighbors
  - Religious affiliations
  - Philanthropic organizations





#### Supports/formal

- Long term services and supports
- Conflict free care management
  - Points you in the right direction
  - Person centered
  - Care transitions
- Traditional services include
  - Adult Day Care
  - Homemaker, companion and chore
  - Home health care (nursing, aides and therapies)
  - Home delivered meals
  - Counseling
  - Personal care assistants (PCAs)
  - Emergency response systems



### **CCCI Care** Management

- Conflict free
- Assessment expertise (especially with older persons and persons with disabilities)
- Coordination of & with services, formal and informal
  - Quality assurance with recommended agencies
  - Legal (attorneys and probate), financial
- On-going monitoring
  - in person, regardless of setting
  - telephonic
- Advocacy, for example: accompaniment to medical appointments; acute care hospital care transitions
- Highly skilled professionals (nurses and social workers) available 24/7
- \$135 per hour rate \*refer to handout in packet



## Other Service Types

- Skilled services: nursing, PT, OT, ST
- Homemaker: assists with housekeeping, shopping, laundry and meal preparation
- Companion: someone to be with you
- Chore: minor home repairs and upkeep
- Adult Day Care: all day program with two meals, bathing assist and transportation (some offer half day)
- ERS: emergency response system
- Home delivered meals: now generally flash frozen, not delivered hot





"It's Meals on Wheels, Mrs. Hokenstat"

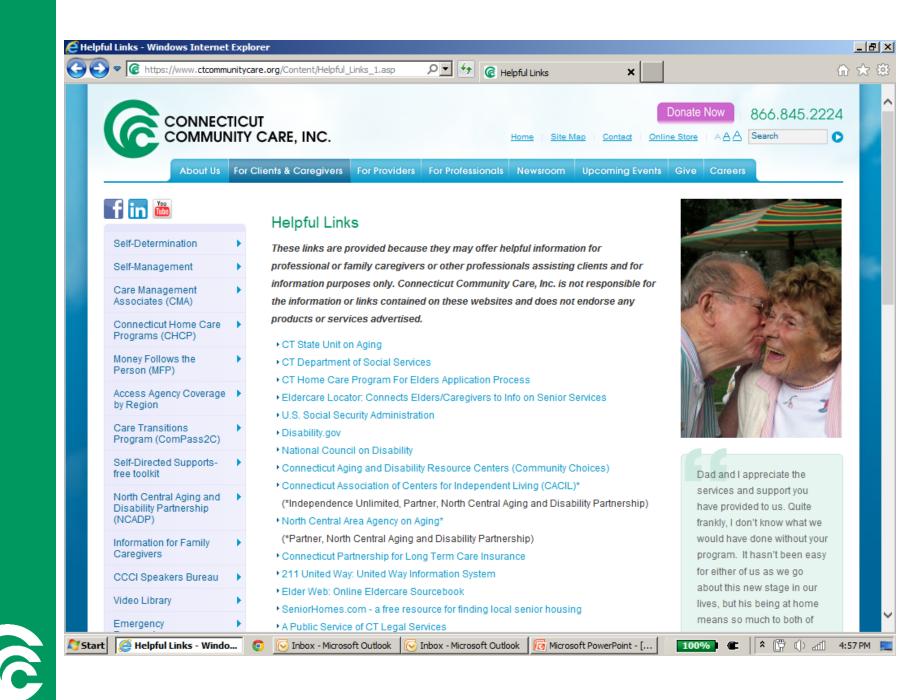


#### Other Service Types (cont.)

- Counseling: mental health counseling for issues of depression, loss, relationship issues
- Personal Care Assistants: privately employed to carry out personal care, medication administration.

\*See handout for general rate structure, call for actual pricing





#### Websites and contact information

- www.ctcommunitycare.org (CCCI)
- <a href="www.nia.nih.gov">www.nia.nih.gov</a> (National Institute on Aging)
- www.alz.ct.org (Alzheimer's Association, CT)
- www.cga.ct.gov/coa (Commission on Aging, CT)

- Molly Rees Gavin, President, CCCI, 43 Enterprise Dr., Bristol, 06010 860 589-6226 x5134
- Gayle Kataja, Director, Community Integration and Partnerships, 100 Great Meadow Rd., Wethersfield, 06109, 860-258-4320



## Being prepared is your choice









Corporate Office: 43 Enterprise Drive, Bristol

Eastern Regional Office: 108 New Park Avenue, Franklin

Northwest Regional Office: 76 Westbury Park Road, Watertown

North Central Regional Office: 100 Great Meadow Road, Wethersfield

www.ctcommunitycare.org