# **Independent Retirement Community**

# What service(s) will be provided by this level of care?

- Independent living residential retirement community for individuals 62 years of age older
- Some independent communities offer Assisted Living and/or Personal Care
- Some independent communities offer affordable housing rental assistance through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
  - o This is subsidized housing through a Federal Government program. To qualify for HUD benefits, there is an application process that you can inquire about at the community.

### How is this level of care different from being in the hospital?

- An independent living community requires annual rent payments for occupancy.
- A lease can be canceled with a 30-day notice.
- Most communities offer guest suites for friends, visitors and children to stay overnight.

### How does the referral process work? Does this level of care require a physician order?

- Most communities have a marketing or admissions office. You should schedule an appointment for a tour.
- There is an application process but no physicians order is required of those seeking an Independent apartment.

## How long will I need to stay at this level of care?

 Residents can live out their life in a senior Independent living apartment. The following amenities are provided in some communities:

Restaurant style dining

Housekeeping\* and linen services\*\*

Social, educational, recreational, spiritual, and cultural programs

Interior and exterior maintenance of building and grounds

Active Resident Association

Integrated Wellness Program

Library and Computer Lab

Card and Activity Rooms

Transportation for scheduled community outings and grocery shopping Chapel

Transportation for doctor's appointments

Service Coordinator for social services

Chaplain Services for spiritual needs

Garden Beds

Laundry Room

Hair Salon

Exercise Rooms

#### Will my insurance pay for this level of care? What happens when insurance no longer covers this level of care?

• Insurance does not pay for Independent Living but some Long-Term Care Policies pay for Personal Care. You need to check with your insurance carrier to see if this care is covered.

# What should I expect from this level of care? Who will take care of me? How often will I be seen by a physician or healthcare professional? What happens if I have medical issues?

• Independent living is a community for self-sufficient individuals. You will be caring for yourself. However, if you need some extra help, you can hire a private caregiver, at your expense, to assist you.

# Who will supervise and coordinate my care once I am at this facility? Does one of my current doctors need to and agree to continue to manage my care?

Independent living residents see their own primary care physician.

• If a resident needs a higher level of care, a community Service Coordinator will assist the resident and family with discharge planning.

### What is expected of me at this level of care?

- Independent living residents are on their own, just like living at home.
- Personal Care does not provide any medical treatments or procedures but does assist with activities of daily living and reminders of medication.
- You must be able to determine an emergency and transfer with only one person assistance.

## What must I be able to do on my own or with family support to safely discharge from this level of care?

- Once residing in an Independent senior housing community, one can come and go, just like home.
- The community offers many amenities to help one age in place with grace such as a vibrant activity program, wellness programs, transportation, a beauty shop, and community garden.

# What happens when I no longer need this level of care? Do I go to another level of care?

- You can live as long as you like in your own apartment. However, you can arrange to have private home care, at your expense, and remain in your independent apartment.
- If you need a higher level of care, the community Service Coordinator will assist you with placement.