

Aging in Place: Housing Options

Handout 2

Introduction

When an older individual is deciding whether or not to move, there are a few questions he or she should ask. These include the following:

- Is the new location within 30 minutes of healthcare?
- What about security?
- What economic opportunities are available?
- Is there public transportation?
- Are there people like me in the area? (Possible friends?)
- How much mental and social stimulation do I need?
Is it available?



Cost Comparisons

When moving is a plausible option, such as to a CCRC or retirement community, the individual should do a comparison between the cost of the new, desired location and the cost of staying in one's own home. A simple exercise is to make two columns, fill in the dollar amount for each category, and add the totals. One may find that moving will be less expensive, more expensive, or cost about the same. Aside from the actual cost, he or she should also consider personal abilities and desires, such as camaraderie versus privacy.

Cost Comparison Categories	Current Home	Housing Option
Car ownership (ownership, maintenance, repairs, insurance)		
Cleaning		
Electricity and gas		
Fire, theft, and liability insurance		
Housekeeping		
Insurance		
Laundry		
Linen service		
Long term care insurance		
Maintenance of outside, gardening		
Meals		
Mortgage and association fees		
Repairs		
Supplemental Medicare insurance		
Taxes		
Telephone and cable		
Transportation		
Water, sewer, and trash pickup		
Total		

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