

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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