

Aging By Design Feature Series Cobb Senior Services

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What Housing Options Exist for Older Adults in Cobb County?

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Engage Consumers

- Understand consumers' needs, wants and expectations by engaging them as partners in seeking solutions to their needs
- Be accountable, transparent and credible
- Consistently address expectations around quality care, services and supports
- Improve care transitions



What do consumers want?

- **Meaningful Relationships** – listen to me to know who I am and what I want
- **Be an advocate for me** – Offer me choices, provide accurate/timely information, educate/empower me, create easy access to programs/services for me wherever I am, assure I will have access the experts across the full spectrum of services, advocate for me via public policy.
- **Be at Home** – respect that I am at home wherever I am living, support me creating home in ways that are appealing to me, honor my lifestyle choices & preferences, allow me to choose.



Definition of an ELDER . . .

“An Elder is a person who is still growing, still a learner, still with potential, and whose life continues to have within it, promise for and connection to the future.

An Elder is still in pursuit of happiness, joy and pleasure, and her or his birthright to these remains intact.

Moreover, an Elder is a person who deserves respect and honor and whose work is to synthesize wisdom from long life experience and formulate this into a legacy for future generations.”

Barry Barkan, Live Oak Institute



Culture Change Is About...

Providing services and creating environments which offer all the comforts of HOME:

- * Dignity
- * Privacy
- * Choice
- * Autonomy
- * Sense of Well-Being
- * Control
- * Pleasures of Daily Living



Lifelong Communities

Livable Communities

- ❖ Connectivity
- ❖ Pedestrian Access & Transit
- ❖ Neighborhood Retail & Services
- ❖ Social Interaction
- ❖ Diversity of Dwelling Types
- ❖ Healthy Living
- ❖ Consideration for Existing Residents



Aging-Friendly Cities

Being inclusive is a key component
 A city has to work for people of different

- Financial means
- Abilities
- Cultures

Opportunity for more human-centered, interdisciplinary, coordinated solutions by re-thinking standard patterns and connecting the forces across disciplines & organizations. Social connectivity in the community is key.



Atlanta Region

Demographic Shift

- By 2030 one out of every 5 residents over 60
- Getting & staying healthy a challenge
- New & diverse housing options needed

People want to stay in their community

Strategies needed to

1. Promote housing & trans options
2. Encourage healthy lifestyles
3. Expand access to services



Housing & Community-Based Services

- Nursing Care (Rehab)
- Assisted Living Communities/Personal Care Homes
 - Senior Living? Retirement Communities?
- Retirement Communities
 - “Independent” Living; “Supportive Services”; Senior Living; Senior Housing; HUD-Subsidized Housing
- Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs)
- Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS)
 - Adult Day, Home Care; Home Health; Hospice; Others?



Housing & Community-Based Services

- Nursing Care (Rehab) CC 14
- Assisted Living Communities CC 4
- Personal Care Homes CC 130
- Retirement Communities
 - IL Non-Subsidized CC 16
 - IL Subsidized CC 10
 - IL other apartment communities CC 13
- Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs) CC 1
- Community Living Arrangements (CLAs) CC 46
 - Adults; Small Homes (under 4); Developmental Disability (not MH); DBHDD s



Housing & Community-Based Services

- Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS)
 - Adult Day Centers CC 4
 - Home Care CC 97
 - Home Health CC 3 (17 serve Cobb)
 - Hospice CC 12
- Other Providers
 - Hospitals CC 4
 - Health Centers CC 9
 - Dialysis Centers CC 15

Sources: ARC AgeWise Connection & Georgia DCH



What About Cobb County?

Similar to other counties in the region –

- Growing number of elders – especially in Georgia
- Large numbers volunteer
- Almost half believe Medicare funds long term care
- Over half not concerned about funding long term care
- While healthier/living longer, many need assistance with basic needs
- 2/3rds plan to stay in their current homes as long as they live
- 91% use their own cars (57% plan to be driven around by others if needed; 25% don't know how they will get around)

Source: UGA/Vinson Institute Study (2006)

