

[REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS]



Home Care in the Commonwealth

Dear Friends,

What a great year it has been. 'Tis the holiday season when our hearts are warmed by family and friends. I continue to be thankful for representing you in the State House. I would like to take the opportunity this December to promote National Home Care Month and let you know how easily they can access services for themselves, a friend or a loved one.

Home care is an often invisible, but an essential and cost effective service allowing people in our communities to manage a chronic disease such as diabetes or COPD. Home health services help people recover in their own home following a hospitalization and retain their independence for as long as possible.

For people seeking services in their home, the Commonwealth has a web-based directory called MADIL, short for Massachusetts Aging and Disability Information Locator, which is available at www.MADIL.org. The site encompasses the state's elder services organizations that can connect people with Meals on Wheels, transportation to medical appointments, and homemaking services, among other things.

For those needing a higher level of care, MADIL also includes information from the non-profit Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts, including data on 200 home care agencies that provide a broad range of services, from skilled nursing or therapy care to aide and companion services. Many of these home care agencies are certified to provide Medicare and Medicaid-reimbursed care when called for while others offer privately-paid services that can help someone prepare a meal, take a bath or shower, or even get to an important medical appointment. All kinds of information on home care, including information on how to find a job in home care, is available on www.thinkhomecare.org.

For those eligible for MassHealth, a number of other service options are available from home health care and adult day health, to personal care attendants and durable medical equipment. More information on that can be accessed by calling 1-800-841-2900 (TTY: 1-800-497-4648 for people with partial or total hearing loss). The Executive Office of Elder Affairs can be reached at 617-727-7750 and at 1-800-AGE-INFO. Their website, <http://www.mass.gov/elders/>, is a great resource for information on the home care services provided through their 27 local Aging Services Access Points (ASAPs), eligibility criteria and payment information. For information on private home care, the Stow Council on Aging has the 2015 guide by the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts.

December 2015

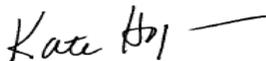
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I encourage elders and their families who may be struggling not to “go it alone.” Seek out home services and support through these state resources. For any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Hogan's Office Hours

There will be no office hours in December. If you need assistance contact my office at (617) 722-2130 or email Kate.Hogan@mahouse.gov.

I would like to wish you and your families a very happy and safe holiday season!



Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

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