

# How to Choose the Best Home Care You want to stay home but it's time to look for help. How to choose. What do you want to know?

### What do you know about the home care company you're calling?

Does the company have a good reputation? How long has it been in business? What do you hear from your friends & neighbors?

A reputable company participates in the community and is mentioned often by community members as a good place to do business. Elder Options in business since 1988 advertises locally, is an active member of the community and has a website that is clear about what services it can help with. www.elderoptionsca.com.

#### How can the home care company help?

What's available? Can their employees cook, do laundry, get groceries, help in/out of the shower, run the vacuum, help with exercises, drive me to the doctor's or other activities? Is there a Social Worker, Nurse (Care Manager) who meets with me & my family to help us set up the best plan?

It should be very clear what duties and responsibilities a home care employee can help with. The Elder Options' Care Manager along with you the client sets up the plan that details work to be done. Everyday tasks to help you in or around the house, transportation, getting up/down from a chair or personal care is important for continued independence. Home care is non medical & there can be limitations in dispensing medications or giving injections.

### Who are the employees?

How do I know the person is honest & dependable? Do I have to pay this person or does the home care company? What happens if the person doesn't work out? How is the person supervised?

Elder Options assumes employer responsibility for all of its employees paying all payroll taxes, conducting background investigations, TB test, DMV certification and ongoing CA training requirements. All employees go through an extensive screening process, in person interview, mentor training and ongoing supervision by Care Management staff. It's important for you to have the right person; a change can assure a good fit.

### How much will this cost me?

*Can I afford to do this? Are there other programs that I might qualify for that* 

will pay for home care? Would it be less expensive to move into Assisted Living?

All home care companies bill hourly with a minimum number of hours (3-4) per shift. The hourly fee includes all employer payroll responsibilities. Elder Options has a 3 hour minimum/day but also has a shorter "per visit" for those not needing 3 hours. Twelve hour days, nights & 24 hour/live in shifts are available at a shift rate. Ask for the current E.O. fee schedule for specifics.

## Is the home care company and its employees insured and bonded?

Should I have the employee drive my car?

If a home care company considers its workers "employees", it is required to not only take on all payroll responsibilities but workers' compensation insurance and liability. Elder Options has full coverage for all its employees, the work they do including providing transportation for the client and running errands. *Note: If a company doesn't utilize its workers as employees, YOU assume all the employer liabilities, responsibilities & costs.* 

#### AGING (ife CARE™ a s s o c l a t l o N \_\_\_\_\_MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Our personalized care management, home care, respite and assisted living services are designed to ensure a safe, happy and fulfilling "every day."



Elder Options, Inc. Phone: (530) 626-6939 (800) 336-1709

CARE

Sacramento / El Dorado Hills / Folsom Phone: (916) 391-8083 South Lake Tahoe Phone: (530) 541-1812

elderoptionsca.com