



## *Things to Look For and Things to Look Out For When Hiring a Caregiver for Your Loved One*

### HELP... AT HOME

#### **What to Look For**

**Look for** an agency that is bonded and insured. AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE is bonded and insured. This gives you the peace of mind that a trustworthy individual will be in your loved one's home.

**Look for** an agency that continuously monitors their caregivers. When an AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE personal attendant's has been placed in your home, we continue our unique system of continued personalized contacts through telephone check-in and home visits.

**Look for** an agency that adjusts to your schedule. AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE adjusts our staff to your schedule and to see to it that you remain comfortable in your own home. Your schedule is our schedule!

**Look for** an agency that offers live in services. AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE offers live in, live out or sleep over services. You may not need many of these services now, but as your needs change you can have comfort knowing that it is available without having to change agencies.

**Look for** an agency that provides care in an assisted living facility. People sometimes discover that the assistance provided in an assisted living facility is not enough to enable them to remain independent. In these cases, AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE provides a person to make this possible.

**Look for** an agency that works with your schedule. AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE works in conjunction with your family to develop an individualized program to manage your daily needs. You are in charge of everything. AT YOUR SERVICE HOME CARE does not dictate to you what your schedule is to be (i.e. what time to get up, when to bathe, meal schedules etc.).

#### **What to Look Out For**

**Look out for** an agency that is not bonded and insured. This is a definite signal to look elsewhere. If an agency is not, your security is greatly reduced. Look out for agencies that do not carry professional and general liability insurance.

**Look out for** an agency that doesn't have a system to monitor their caregivers. Look out for agencies that don't have surprise in home visits. If a caregiver is not monitored, you may be in danger of a caregiver becoming lax or assuming too much liberty in their decisions.

**Look out for** an agency that tells you when they are available. You need to be assured that a caregiver is there when you have the need, not when it is convenient for them.

**Look out for** an agency that doesn't offer live in services or has limited services. As your needs change or if an emergency arises, if an agency does not offer you live in, sleep over or other more extensive services, it can become very stressful changing agencies.

**Look out for** an agency that limits their care to only in home. If your needs change and it is determined that your loved one needs to go to an assisted living facility, make sure that the agency you choose can provide this service.

**Look out for** an agency that tells you what their schedule is. It is very important that you or your loved one remains on the schedule that has become familiar and comfortable. Do not choose an agency that determines or changes this schedule. This can be very uncomfortable and confusing.

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