

Island Senior Resources
Private In-Home Provider (PIP) List:
Oak Harbor 360-675-0311 - Langley 360-321-1600 - Camano 360-387-6201

Home Care and Household Services

*** Please see our How to Hire Guide for hiring tips and information regarding certifications or licenses.**

Updated: June 10th (see background check date for latest additions)

Next Update: When new information is received

***Note if you are a provider and would like to update any of the information listed here, please complete a new application by clicking the link below and filling out the form for becoming a provider. Each successful application allows providers to remain on the list for one year. [Private In-home Provider - Island Senior Resources \(senior-resources.org\)](http://senior-resources.org)**

DISCLAIMER

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- * The providers listed have no affiliation with Island Senior Resources, therefore this agency is not responsible for their actions.
- * A WA State Patrol Criminal History check is conducted before anyone is placed on this listing and then renewed annually.
- * We do not check the personal/professional references or other background information about these providers because we do not have the resources to do so.
- * It is YOUR responsibility to interview, check references, and negotiate duties and pay.
- * Please see our How to Hire Guide for hiring tips and information regarding certifications or licenses.
- * We appreciate positive or negative feedback concerning the performance of these providers!!! Please alert us of any incorrect phone numbers or other information.
- * All caregivers on this list meet Island Senior Resources minimum requirements. We encourage you to complete and return the PIP List Feedback Survey Form provided when you accessed the PIP List. The intent of the feedback form is to fill the PIP List with quality providers to meet the needs of our aging community.

KEY

Personal Care	Assistance with dressing, feeding, bathing, and personal hygiene.
Transfers	Repositioning a person or assisting them to transfer (ex: from bed to wheelchair).
Home Making	Assistance with meal preparation, cooking, and light housekeeping tasks.
Chore Services	House cleaning, shopping, laundry, and other errands.
Respite Care	Assistance provided to the primary caregiver so that they may take a break. Such as supervision for someone with dementia.
Companionship	Social contact such as accompaniment on walks or errands.
Transportation	Transporting the individual for appointments, shopping, etc.
Engagement	Activities adapted to a client's experience, hobbies, needs. (ie: art, making memory books, cooking, gardening, exercise, games,)
Overnights	Willing to spend nights in the individual's home as needed.

Name	Phone Number	Hourly Wage	NORTH	CENTRAL	SOUTH	PERSONAL CARE TRANSFERS	HOME MAKING	CHORE SERVICES	RESPIRE CARE	COMPASSIONSHIP	TRANSPORTATION ENGAGEMENT	OVERNIGHTS	CREDENTIALS	Other Information	Bkgd. Check
Adams, Kristin	360-678-6938	\$20-25 Negotiable	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		No credentials but I have multiple years' experience. Available Thursday, Tuesday, Monday, Wednesday. Transport rate. \$10	12/17/2021
Bonn, Katie	206-818-3374	\$30 Neg			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7 days a week. No credentials but years of experience.	03/24/2022
Brown, Beverly	360-320-2493	\$15 Neg	X			X	X	X		X		X		Can work Monday through Saturday 8am to 5pm	1/25/2021
Burnett, Debra	360 824 1026	\$20 neg			X		X	X		X			X	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday CNA/CAN	11/01/2021
Cunningham, Tamara	202-868-1587	\$20 - \$25	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Available for 12 hr. shifts, certified Red Cross First Aid, and Basic Life Support (CPR/AED), Nursing Delegation, Everything from Rehab recovery to Hospice Care	1/15/2021
Davidson, April	206-422-6667	\$25		X	X		X	X		X		X		Friendly neighbor with 15 years professional experience offering house cleaning/keeping. Esp interested in engagement, arts, gardening, exercise & hobbies. Loves all animals. Non-smoker but doesn't mind smoking. Looking forward to meeting you!"	5/21/2021
Dyer, Bernadete	(360)-730-1652 (425)-248-8368	\$25 Neg	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I am a Patient-Care Technician/NAC with several years of experience. I believe in treating individuals with Great Compassion and Dignity.	11/01/2021
Ebanks, Monica	360-632-6499		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Have been a CNA for 26 years, I have great references from past and present family members, I am a great cook, experienced with dementia/ Alzheimer's clients. I have worked in nursing homes, Adult Family Homes, for an Agency, & private care.	3/26/2021

Fitzgerald, Laura	360-321-8879 661-378-6082	\$20 + .56 mile			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	*COPEs Certified. Available Thursdays	5/21/2021
Floyd, Caroline	757-812-2778 360-929-5334	\$25 - \$35	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I took a dementia classes online and I have 3 years' experience with a client with dementia.	01/20/2022
Floyd, Robin	360-240-9626	\$25	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		.50c a mile.	02/08/2022
Grau, Lisa	360-707-1325	\$25	X	X	X	X	X					X						7/23/2021
Gregory, Laura	360-222-3-15	\$25-\$30		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		No Credentials but multiple years experience.	06/10/2022
Hellinger, Cindy	360-391-1378	\$25-35 per hour depending				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Understanding Dementia course: Senior Resource Center **Past Primary caregiver/guardian for my mother with Alzheimer's as well 10+ years of in-home caregiving for clients with Alzheimer's or dementia. Hourly rate depends on responsibilities and/or care for 1 or 2 people	7/23/2021
Howard, Kelly	425-789-8152	\$25	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		I was once a nail tech and can give a good pedicure. Available any day and overnight. Extensive experience.	7/23/2021

Larson, Jo Layne	360-331-8819	\$20		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					I am reliable and available Monday through Thursday and weekends.	1/1/2021
Leichtling, Aubrie	425-220-5015	\$45			X												All animal care, dog walking and enrichment, feeding & watering and mess clean up. Monday to Friday.	03/24/2022
Lunn, Patrice	425 330 4714	\$23			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Worked in 'Time Together' program for 4 years. This program was supportive care in a rich setting that was designed to engage participants in multiple ways. There was live music, art experiences, snacks and meals, with an emphasis on group engagement. We also helped participants with toileting, and guidance with taking meds and diabetic shots. Before this, I worked for several years in dementia care (including my aging parents).	01/20/2022

MacCallum, Barbara	360-967-6047	\$20			X				X	X	X	X	X	X			I am a caring and considerate woman with 15 years' experience caring for seniors. I look forward to bringing quality care to your life. Note: I am allergic to perfumes, scents and cats	3/26/2021
Maina, Susan	206 742 1682	\$30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	CNA available 7 days a week. Over 12 years experience with dementia care.	11/01/2021
Mann, Sukhvir	360-499-1641	\$22 +.60c Per mile	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	CAN, CNA	10/13/2021
Mburu, Hannah	253-433-9919	\$25 - \$30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I live off the Island and can provide care for multiple days.	5/7/2021
McNulty, Colleen	360-296-5065	\$25-\$30 +.50 per mile			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	No credentials but multiple years of experience.	06/10/2022
Mungai/ mwangi, Mercy	253-335-7566, 425-281-5640	\$30		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I am highly experienced, responsible, passionate, reliable, trustworthy and hardworking	1/15/2021
Murray, Theresa	360-202-4920	\$30 - \$35			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	CAN/CNA Will make Footcare home visits and Hospice Care	03/24/2022
Muriithi, Magdaline	206-294-0064	\$35 - \$0 Negotiable	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I am a caring, compassionate and hardworking nursing Assistant. I have 3 years' experience in caregiver with elderly and dementia patients. My passion for this career started way back in my childhood when I was looking after my elderly grandparents.	4/9/2021
Myre, Karen	360-914-0958	\$20 - \$25	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				No Credentials but I have years of experience and I have COPES training for caregiving.	02/08/2022

Napaso, Margaret	978-677-4592	\$30 Negotiable	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	CNA. Overnights Available 7 days a week.	4/2/2021
Neely, Debbie	360-612-7314	\$25			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	*	I am a licensed LPN. I have had my own business helping seniors and seniors with dementia for 20+ years. COPES CERTIFIED	09/09/2021
Njunge, Hilda	206-602-8991	\$27 neg			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		2/5/2021
Presson, Patricia	360-499-9243	\$25 neg	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Tuesday – Sunday and overnights. Island Home Nursing Training. Years of experience.	03/24/2022
Rivas, Kathie	360-672-5170	\$30	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		I have worked in the field for 32 years with various types of clients. I have been a field supervisor for a home care agency. Avail M-F COPES CERTIFIED	7/23/2021

Renpa, Azrael	360-914-2268	25\$ neg day 17\$/overnight			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I have several years experience caring for family members with dementia and clients.	06/10/2022
Russell, Jewelian	306-720-1493 360 240 8432	\$25			X	X						X					Social Contact - such as accompaniment on walks or errands; organizing, cleanup as removing unwanted items from home, office or storage. grocery shopping and unload/put away; heavy duty organization for collectors or workers at the home, office, or storage unit taking unwanted items to local thrift or dump. Pickup of furniture or bulk items load mattresses at full size. Grocery shopping and stow away.	6/18/2021
Sargent, Deborah	360-708-3568	\$30 - \$35 negotiable		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I have been a CNA [nurses assistant] for 30 years in the private home sector. Have taken further education courses in Alzheimer's and Dementia. In the 20 yrs. I have lived on Whidbey Island and have worked with clients in assisting with all ADL'S, Hospice, respite care,,and management. I have been told over the years I am a good cook. This has always been a passion of mine as well as helping others have quality of life. I no longer do heavy lifting.	02/10/2022
Shepard, Linda	360-503-8947	\$20-\$25	X	X				X		X	X		X				DSHS Dementia Training. CAN \$1 per mile Avail: M-F	7/23/2021
Sierra Palacios, Luisa	360-824-2777	\$17 +.50c mile		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		CAN, CNA. Avail: M, T, W	10/13/2021
Tayate, Selai	425-954-0272	Depends on service	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	CAN?CNA	06/10/2022
Thoreson, Karen	360-692-8082	\$30 +.56 per mile	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Formerly a Care Giver & Lifestyle & Enrichment Director at Senior Care Facility	06/10/2022
Thorson, Michelle	360-320-9816	\$20 - \$25			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	I have a dementia certificate and have worked with a lot of people with dementia. I can work M, T, W, T, F, S, S, overnights. I don't have credentials but have multiple years' experience.	6/18/2021

Wambui, Margaret	425-350-0695	\$25- \$30 +.58c mile			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	CAN, CNA, Avail M,T,W	10/13/2021
Waweru, Margaret	319-512-6354	\$30 Neg															I have been a CNA over 8 years. Meal preparation, shopping, taking clients to medical appointments, running errands, assisting upon request based on care plan. Cleaning. I am available live-in or live-out Monday to Sunday.	12/19/2020
Welch, Kim	360-969-2014	\$25	X					X	X		X	X	X				No credentials but I have multiple years' experience. .25c a mile. I'm a compassionate, hardworking, friendly person that can help with housekeeping, chores/errands/light yard work, taking you to a local appointment, pet sitting/care and I love to cook. Fully vaccinated	02/10/2022

Other Caregiver Resources in Island County

[All Ways Caring HomeCare – Freeland, Washington](#)

[Care.com: Senior Care, and Housekeeping](#)

Heart Song Caregiver Coop. [Home](#) | [heartsong](#)

Right at Home Oak Harbor [Home Care](#) | [Senior Care](#) | [Oak Harbor](#) | [Right at Home](#)

****If you have had a good experience with an agency, please let us know so we can share with our community.***

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Handyperson and Yard Work Services

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Name	Number	Wage	Location			Services							Other Information	Bkgd. Checked		
			NOTH	CENTRAL	SOUTH	HANDY PERSON	ELECTRICAL	PAINTING	CARPENTRY	YARD WORK	PLUMBING	HAUL			OTHER	
Donovan, Ronald	360-941-9616 360-544-8445	\$25		X	X	X									I am experienced and available for small jobs.	1/1/2021
Donovan, Keaton	603-866-0455 360-544-8445	\$25 Negotiable	X	X	X	X		X		X		X			I am polite, professional and willing to tackle any job I am qualified for.	1/1/2021
Dyer, Bernadete	360)-730-1652 (425)-248-8368	\$30 Neg	X	X	X					X					Pruning, weeding	11/01/2021
Faure, Kristy	707-338-7138	Free											X		DOG GROOMING – Friday & Saturday. Multiple	09/09/2021

Aging & Disability Resources

North Whidbey 360-675-0311

• South Whidbey 360-321-1600

• Camano Island 360-387-6201

How to Hire In-Home Workers

Updated: August 13, 2020

Types of Home Care Services

Home care may include any of the following services:

- **Personal Care**
 - Such as assistance with dressing, feeding, and personal hygiene to facilitate self-care.
- **Homemaking**
 - Such as assistance with household tasks, housekeeping, shopping, meal planning and preparation, and transportation.
- **Respite Care**
 - Such as assistance and support provided to family caregivers.
- **Companion**
 - Such as social contact, accompaniment on walks or errands
- **Chore Services**
 - Such as housekeeping tasks, grocery shopping, laundry, some meal preparation. No personal care.
- **Home Health Aide**
 - All the above chore tasks as well as personal care needs, but no skilled nursing services.

These terms are used by some agencies to assign costs. They also may give you an idea of the level of care you or your family member may need. With each level, expect to pay more per hour, although this may vary.

Determining What Help is Needed

At some point, it may become clear that some activities of daily living are no longer being accomplished or are done only with great difficulty. To determine what help is needed, you may want to list necessary routines and ask yourself what you can do alone, what your family is able and willing to do, and what is not being done. Once you have examined the needs, you can develop a job description for your worker.

Use this table to help identify your needs:

Task	Supervision	Verbal Instruction	Set-Up Help	Physical Assistance
Bathing				
Toileting				
Transferring				
Ambulation (walking)				
Eating				
Dressing				
Transportation				
Cooking				
Shopping				
Medication Management				
Telephone				

Credentials

When hiring private home care providers, you must determine what (if any) credentials you are looking for. Here are descriptions of common terms you will encounter when hiring home care workers.

CNA/NAC-

Nurses' aides are known as CNAs in most states. In Washington State, nurses' aides use the job title "nursing assistant -- certified." The state's Department of Social and Health Services oversees and approves training programs for NACs and administers their licensing examinations. The Department of Health performs background checks on each applicant and issues the state license after they have passed a certification exam.

NACs and CNAs are responsible for most of the patients' daily hands-on care, including basic medical duties and daily hygiene. They clean catheters, make beds, and turn the least-mobile patients regularly so they don't develop bedsores. They help patients dress, eat and use the restroom, bathe them and help them with walking or regular exercise.

NAR -

Nursing Assistant Registered - New graduates from NAC training programs can begin working in the field immediately, registering with the state as a "nursing assistant -- registered" (NAR) within three days of being hired. NARs can legally work for up to 120 days, while they take their NAC certification test and wait for the NAC license to be issued.

LPN – Licensed Practicing Nurse –

LPNs perform a variety of tasks under the supervision of a registered nurse. They administer medicine & injections and take vital signs. LPNs usually provide more basic nursing care and are responsible for the comfort of the patient.

LPNs must complete an accredited practical nursing course from a state-approved program, to receive certification. Once that is completed, they must pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN) in order to obtain a license and be able to work as an LPN.

RN – Registered Nurse –

All registered nurses require a nursing license acquired by completing an accredited nursing program and passing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN).

RNs may administer medication and treatment to patients, coordinate plans for patient care, perform diagnostic tests and analyze results, instruct patients on how to manage illnesses after treatment, and oversee other workers such as LPNs, nursing aids, and home care aides.

RNs and LPNs are required to keep documentation showing at least 531 hours of active practice and 45 clock hours of continuing education within each three-year cycle.

To Verify the Credentials of a Health Care Provider with the WA State Department of Health, visit:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProviderCredentialSearch>

Paying for Home Care

Private-Pay

All in-home care services are available as a private, out-of-pocket expense.

Medicaid

Income-eligible seniors may qualify for state-funded Medicaid services called COPES or CFC. Call your local Information & Assistance office for more details. Contact information is located on the front page of this packet.

If you are currently receiving Medicaid funded In-Home Care, you may hire through an agency or The Home Care Referral Registry matches Washington State residents who receive publicly funded in-home care services with screened and pre-qualified home care workers. **Phone:** (360) 707-2368

Medicare covered Home Health

To qualify for Medicare-covered services certain requirements must be met:

- ◆ A physician must approve and order each type of service received.
- ◆ The older person must be homebound, that is, have a medical condition which makes it difficult to obtain services outside the home.
- ◆ The older person must need skilled nursing or rehabilitation services, not just help with personal care or assistance tending a chronic condition.
- ◆ Care must be provided by a Medicare approved “Home Health” provider.

Some of the professionals who may be providing services may include: a nurse, home health aide, occupational therapist, physical therapist, social worker, and/or speech therapist. These services are usually time limited.

If you think you or a family member may qualify for these kinds of services, contact the older person’s physician and request that Medicare nursing services be ordered.

Locating a Home Care Provider

Providers for in-home care can be hired 2 ways:

1. Hire Through an Agency

This method will save time and the interview process but expect to pay several dollars more per hour for services that are structured in graduating levels. Agencies may also have requirements for a minimum number of hours. Some may offer a flat rate for a particular service like bath assistance and a minimum hourly requirement for a home health aide.

What is a Home Care Agency?

Home care agencies provide non-medical services to ill, disabled, or vulnerable individuals, enabling them to maintain their highest level of independence and remain in their homes.

The WA State Department of Health licenses home care agencies to assure care is provided within health and safety standards established by statute and rule. The department enforces the standards by periodically conducting on-site surveys of these agencies.

Some of the licensing requirements include:

- Washington State Patrol criminal background checks in compliance with RCW 43.43.830-842.
- Current business license(s).
- Evidence of professional liability, public liability, and property damage insurance.
- For more information on licensing requirements, **visit:** <https://www.doh.wa.gov/>

Agencies offering services in Island County:

- Agencies are listed alphabetically.
- This list is not an endorsement or recommendation.
- All licenses were active as of the date this listing was updated.

Home Care Agencies	Phone	Website	License #
Cascade Companion Care	425-361-0044 888-390-6068	www.cascadecompanioncare.com	IHS.FS.60157484
Catholic Community Services	877-870-1582	www.ccsww.org	IHS.FS.00000247
Home Instead Senior Care	360-982-2461	www.homeinstead.com	IHS.FS.60112523
Home watch Caregivers	360-240-9525	www.homewatchcaregivers.com/oakharbor	IHS.FS00000088
All Ways Caring (Formerly ResCare)	360-331-7441 866-737-2273	www.rescare.com	IHS.FS.00000226
Right At-Home	360-392-3934	www.rahnwwa.com	IHS.FS.60298689
Sunrise Home Care	800-984-9044 360-336-0798	www.sunrisecommunityliving.com/what-we-do/home-care	IHS.FS.00000447
Visiting Angels	800-365-4189	www.visitingangels.com	IHS.FS.00000462

2. Hire a Private Provider

This method generally will save you money, but it is more work to screen, interview, and hire workers. It is YOUR responsibility to interview, check references, and negotiate duties and pay. Please read through this packet for guidance on hiring private home care providers.

- **Word of Mouth** – The best way to find a worker is to get a recommendation from a family member, friend, or someone else you trust. Let them know you are looking. Your church or synagogue, or an organization you belong to may also be important resources.
- **The PIP List** - The Private In-Home Provider (PIP) List is a directory of private individuals seeking home care work who have received a WSP background check. For more information and to obtain a copy of the list, contact your local Information and Assistance office. Contact information is located on the front page of this packet.
- **Advertising** - You may want to check the “Situation Wanted” section of the classified ads of your newspapers. Or you can place an ad in a local paper. At a minimum, your ad should include hours needed, a brief description of duties, telephone number and time to call. You could also mention preferences such as non-smoker or male/female, and wage offered.

Job Description and Contract

The purpose of a job description or contract is to clarify the duties and responsibilities of both the employer and the worker. Having a formalized agreement is essential if there is a dispute about salary, hours of work, tasks, etc. A contract/job description can always be revised or updated as needed. It is important to be as specific as you can in a contract, to lessen the chances for confusion or disagreement. If the job involves special skills such as lifting into the bathtub or giving medications, the worker should be trained and experienced in those skills. See **Exhibit A** for a sample contract form.

Interviewing

For someone you feel may be appropriate for the job, set a specific appointment time for an interview. It is recommended that you invite a family member or friend to be present for the interview. This can be very helpful both for moral support and in sorting out the information you obtain during the interview.

For the interview: Have your sample contract ready for the applicant to read. Record name, address and telephone number of applicant. Below are some suggested interview questions. Make up your own list of questions which meet **your** particular needs.

Sample Interview Questions:

- ◆ Where have you worked before? What kinds of things have you done?
- ◆ Tell me something about your family, hobbies, interests, etc.
- ◆ How do you feel about caring for an elderly or disabled person?
- ◆ Have you ever provided care for a person similar to what this job requires?
- ◆ How do you feel about cooking and eating what someone else wants?
- ◆ How do you handle people who are angry or violent?
- ◆ Why are you choosing to do this kind of work?
- ◆ What makes you uncomfortable or angry?
- ◆ What is your attitude about smoking, drinking, or using drugs?
- ◆ Is there anything in the job description which you would not do?
- ◆ What commitment to staying on this job are you willing to make?
- ◆ Please give me two work-related and one personal reference.
- ◆ **NEVER hire someone without checking references!**

Review the following checklist before ending the interview. If the applicant is obviously unsuited, be non-committal about future contact. Remind a suitable applicant that you will need to check references before making a decision.

Interview Checklist:

- Was the person on time for the interview?
- Was his/her appearance and grooming appropriate for the occasion?
- Did the applicant and I agree on the terms and conditions of the contract?
- Do I need to modify my contract before employing this person? How?
- Did I get at least TWO references to call to verify his/her ability to perform needed services?
- Did I say when I would probably notify the applicant of his/her acceptance or non-acceptance?
- Do I have the name and number of the applicant?
- Did I feel comfortable or at ease with the person?
- Did I note anything that made me uncomfortable? (dress, speech, behavior, etc.)

Questions to Ask References

1. How long have you known _____? Dates? In what relationship?
2. Is _____ working for you now? Has _____ worked for you in the past? (If no longer working for reference, ask:) Why did _____ leave? Would you re-hire?
3. What was _____'s position with you? Can you tell me more about his/her responsibilities?
4. How did _____ get along with you and senior adults?
5. What were your impressions of _____ as a worker?
6. Did _____ show initiative or wait to be told what to do?
7. Was _____ reliable/dependable?
8. What were his/her strengths and weaknesses?
9. Did you find _____ trustworthy and honest?
10. Were you aware of any problems with drugs or alcohol?
11. Any other problems that could interfere with _____'s performance?

At this time, briefly describe why you are looking for a worker and ask the reference if the applicant would

be a good match for this situation.

Financial and Legal Considerations

Once an applicant is offered the job and accepts, the contract should be signed before the worker starts. Each party should have a copy of the signed contract.

When you become an employer, you have some obligations in record-keeping. If you pay \$1,000.00 or more per year to an employee, you are required by law to withhold for social security benefits and make quarterly payments to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). **(Exception: If the person you are hiring is self-employed, he/she is required to pay his/her own social security taxes. For bookkeeping reasons and less paperwork, many people prefer to hire only self-employed workers.)**

Also be aware that accidents can happen to your employee while working for you and you need to have insurance coverage for such incidents.

Below is a checklist of considerations:

1. Discuss with your homeowner insurance agent about your liability coverage as it applies to someone in your employ.
2. You should have a contract agreement detailing rate of pay, days and hours of employment.
3. To get IRS forms and publications about social security withholding requirements, call your local IRS office and ask for Form 942. In Skagit County, this number is 1-800-829-3676.
4. Set up a form for record of payments and deductions for your employee. (see sample below)

Name of Worker	Dates of Work	Date of Payment	Deductions (multiply gross by .0765)	Check No.	Amount Paid
John Doe	11/3-11/15	11/17/00	\$50 x .0765 = \$3.83	2635	\$46.17 net

5. When you file your own 1040 tax return, determine if payments to your employee qualify as a medical deduction for you.
6. Be aware of possible legal and financial pitfalls of paying in cash instead of by check. Use receipt forms or other proof of payments to worker. (Receipt books are available where stationary supplies are sold.)
7. Keep a record of any serious problems you have with your worker, in case of later disputes.
8. Do not tempt human nature. Keep cash, jewelry, or other valuables in a location where a worker will not see them or have access to them.

Supervising In-Home Workers

1. *Make a list of the steps for each task*, including preferences for cleansers and implements to be used, the locations of these items, and reminders of parts of the task which could be overlooked, for example, "please separate the whites from the colors for laundry" or "please sweep under the kitchen table".
2. *Avoid following the worker around the home*. Instead, ask to be notified after each task is complete. Then, check off each step that has been finished correctly. Simply remind the worker if any step has been left out.
3. *Be sure to acknowledge any extra effort or thoughtfulness*, even if what has been done does not fit exactly with your specifications. It is important to focus on the person's good will rather than insignificant errors.
4. *Correct major errors by giving information rather than criticism*. Unless an error occurs repeatedly, assume that the person has been lacking information about how something should be handled within the home.

When Home Care Services are Resisted

Even though in-home workers may be essential in maintaining older people in their homes, these services are sometimes resisted. It is important to respond to this with as much understanding and consideration as possible.

Maintaining Sense of Independence

Older persons may not realize that they have been accepting services (in the form of neighborly assistance or family visits in which chores are completed) for quite a while. To accept a stranger's help may be viewed as an acceptance of diminished capability.

It is important to involve the person needing care in the process: writing the job description, interviewing and hiring. Even if you are limited to providers through state funding, the older person can maintain independence by using supervisory skills.

Worrying About Depleting Savings

It may be helpful to multiply out the cost of in-home care over an entire year so that the exact cost can be seen relative to the benefits received.

Listen to the worries as well as the meaning and emotions behind them.

Fear of Reduced Contact with Family Members

Reassure the person receiving care that contact with the family will continue. Offer frequent phone calls and set dates for social contact.

By stating clearly that the intention in hiring help is to prolong the ability to provide care, the family members can sometimes show the older person that this action is the very opposite of abandonment.

Worry About Lack of Supervisory Skills

Older people may need to learn how to provide clear instructions and appropriate supervision to inspire confidence in his or her abilities.

- Have a job description prepared before any interviews take place.
- **Compile a checklist of tasks to be performed. This checklist should be given to the worker before each session so that tasks are clearly stated and can be verified if not performed. This checklist also structures the relationship on a professional foundation.**

Fear of Victimization

A new in-home worker may represent a threat to an older person. After all, this is a stranger who is gaining access to household and personal items of the person needing care. Older people who may have hearing or vision or mobility deficit may feel very vulnerable.

- **Get Referrals from Friends:** A trusted worker of a trusted friend can be an excellent prospect.
- **Be a Physical Presence:** A family member or friend can be present during the first few sessions which can reassure the person receiving care and can also allow the observer to form their own impressions of the caregiver. Later, this person or others can make unplanned visits occasionally.

Ethical Considerations and Abuse Prevention

Gifts

An important ethical consideration facing families and elders and their caregivers is that of gifts. An employee/caregiver should not accept gifts of money or anything else. It violates the professional relationship that should be established between a worker and the employer. This is a difficult concept for many elders to accept. The caregiver/elder relationship is by its nature one that has an imbalance of power. The caregiver is usually more capable, physically, and, often, mentally. To receive gifts other than wages jeopardizes the "balance of power" and drifts into the area of elder abuse or exploitation.

This information is provided by Island Senior Resources, Aging & Disability Resources. Client donations help fund our program.

Abuse

Elder abuse is prevalent in today's society. Unfortunately, elder abuse is all too common without proper advance planning, accountability and supervision. Abuse can take many forms from accepting gifts to theft of personal items, physical abuse or emotional battering and neglect. If you feel unsafe or uncomfortable with a caregiver, contact a third party such as Adult Protective Services (1-866-END-HARM) or your local Aging & Disability Resource office.

Become knowledgeable about common types of abuse:

❖ **Misuse of time:**

- Using up time doing easier tasks first. On your checklist, be sure the harder or more critical tasks are listed first.
- Taking frequent breaks, making phone calls, watching TV.
- **TIP:** Use supervisory skills and written checklist to maintain a professional relationship.

❖ **Taking advantage of the older person:**

- Worker wins trust and then takes advantage of sympathy and/or friendship by sharing personal and/or financial problems.
- Persuades employer to sign for hours not worked, allowing late arrival/early leaving, bringing children to work.
- Soliciting "loans".

Prevent abuse by periodic checkups. Neighbors can also be helpful because of their proximity to the older person.

Open Communication with your In-Home Care Provider

Open communication between employer and employee can maintain a positive relationship. People appreciate being told when they are doing a good job. It is also important to tell people about factors that irritate you or unacceptable job performance. Small annoyances can often cause larger problems when not discussed. A good work environment will bring the best performance from an employee and open communication is a necessary component of a good work environment.

Praise a job well done. People need to be appreciated.

Describe what you like and include your feelings, for example:

- "Thank you for putting non-skid strips in the bath. I feel much safer," or
- "I really appreciate the extra care you take in cleaning under the furniture (around the sink, etc.). Having a clean home feels wonderful," or
- "Thank you for making the effort to be here on time."

Be fair and kind. Respect your employee's privacy. Be honest. Be sure your expectations are clear.

- Give specific, written directions regarding duties to be performed by employee.
- Review privileges such as meals and use of telephone.
- Demonstrate difficult tasks: Have employee practice for you.
- Develop a checklist to be completed by employee and yourself at the end of each shift.

Get small irritations off your chest before they build up. In the event of irritations or problems, permit ample time to discuss and resolve.

- Give criticism as soon as possible after the problem occurs.
- Mention one incident at a time and make a suggestion for improvement.
- Describe what you did not like and include your feelings.
- Criticize incident or actions, not the person.
- Keep criticism brief and to the point.
- Forgive and forget.

Exhibit A Contract Form

Employer: _____ Employee: _____

Salary: hourly \$ _____ weekly \$ _____ monthly \$ _____
(choose one)

Terms of Payment: weekly _____ bi-weekly _____ monthly _____

Schedule: MON _____ THURS _____
TUES _____ FRI _____
WED _____ SAT _____
SUN _____

Changes in schedule are not negotiable.
Changes in schedule are negotiable with prior approval.

Duties to be performed (be specific)

Household Tasks:

Personal Care Tasks:

Non-acceptable behavior

Personal phone calls _____
Foul language _____
Leaving early _____
Discussing personal problems _____

Smoking inside _____
Coming late _____
Other _____

X _____
Employers Signature
Address
Phone

X _____
Employee Signature
Address
Phone

Employee's Social Security # _____

Or

"I will be responsible for my own Social Security or any taxes due to any governmental agency arising from this employment."

X _____
Employee Signature



Private In-Home Provider (PIP) List Feedback Survey

Your feedback is important to us! We want to fill our list with quality providers to meet your needs.

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. Please be sincere and thoughtful in your responses.

Provider Information

Full Name: _____

Caregiver Housekeeper Handyman Other: _____

Date Hired: _____ End Date (if applicable): _____

Provider Feedback		1 Poor	2 Fair	3 Good	4 Great	5 Excellent	N/A
1	Work Quality and Productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>					
2	Job knowledge and skills	<input type="checkbox"/>					
3	Meets expectations, follows directions	<input type="checkbox"/>					
4	Safe patient handling	<input type="checkbox"/>					
5	Plans engaging client activities	<input type="checkbox"/>					
6	Manages time well, completes all work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
7	Dependability	<input type="checkbox"/>					
8	Punctuality, attendance, returns calls	<input type="checkbox"/>					
9	Gives reasonable notice for absences	<input type="checkbox"/>					
10	Communicates changes and concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>					
11	Work Ethic	<input type="checkbox"/>					
12	Good judgement and problem-solving	<input type="checkbox"/>					
13	Has positive attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>					
14	Treats clients with respect & compassion	<input type="checkbox"/>					

1 5	Shows discretion in family matters	<input type="checkbox"/>					
1 6	Willing to accept feedback	<input type="checkbox"/>					
OVERALL RATING		<input type="checkbox"/>					



Please continue to next page.

Private In-Home Provider (PIP) List Feedback Survey

PIP List Feedback		1 Poor	2 Fair	3 Good	4 Great	5 Excellent	N/A
1	Was the PIP list easy to get?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Was the PIP list easy to read?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Was the PIP List easy to understand?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Would you use the PIP List again?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OVERALL RATING		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How quickly were you able to hire someone?		1-3 Days <input type="checkbox"/>	4-7 Days <input type="checkbox"/>	1-2 Weeks <input type="checkbox"/>	2-3 Weeks <input type="checkbox"/>	3-4 Weeks <input type="checkbox"/>	Did not hire <input type="checkbox"/>

Comments

Your Information (will be kept confidential)	
Full Name:	_____
Address:	_____ Phone: _____
Address:	_____ Email: _____

This information is provided by Island Senior Resources, Aging & Disability Resources. Client donations help fund our program.