



Living and Staying at Youville House

By Joanne Parsons, Executive Director

I was in a lighthearted conversation with two gentlemen Residents recently. They teased me, asking if I would ‘put them out’ when they got too old. Having heard the question voiced other ways before, I knew their joking veiled a true concern, and our conversation soon focused on the services we can provide to Residents of Youville House as their needs change.

Assisted Living Regulations

Certified assisted living residences in Massachusetts are regulated by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.



*Joanne Parsons,
Executive Director*

These regulations set the limits of care and services that can be provided by staff in assisted living residences. For instance, these guidelines clearly state that staff employed by an assisted living residence can provide personal care services, such as assistance with bathing and dressing, but cannot perform ‘skilled’ services, such as changing sterile dressings, giving insulin injections, or administering intravenous medications. Generally, however, when skilled services that can be delivered in the home are required, a Resident’s physician will order a Visiting Nurse or a home health agency to perform the needed service.

The Assessment Process

When a Resident moves into Youville House, our nurses conduct an Assessment of their physical and cognitive level. This Assessment is used to devise a Service Plan that will assure support for activities of daily living, such as dressing, showers, escorts to the dining room, or medication reminders. Some Residents may have special needs for catheter care or assistance transferring. The nurses re-assess and adjust the Service Plan whenever a Resident’s needs change significantly, and at a minimum, every six months.

Youville House is home to our Residents, and we work as creatively as possible to help Residents remain in their home. Sometimes, the challenge is in

Youville House is a subsidiary of Youville Lifecare and member of Covenant Health Systems. For more information please visit www.youvillehouse.com or call 617-491-1234



We also work closely with visiting nurses and home health agencies that are providing skilled services to Residents. Residents can always chose to contract with private home care agencies if their needs increase to the point that extra assistance is required.

convincing a Resident to accept the services available. We strive to help residents achieve a balance between remaining independent, and accepting help when it affects quality of life or safety. We can provide

“Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can read.”

Mark Twain

additional personal care as a Resident’s needs change, assisting with wheelchair transfers, continence care, toileting, and night time safety checks. We even offer additional structure throughout the day for Residents with memory issues. We work closely with visiting nurses and home health agencies that are providing skilled services to Residents. Residents can chose to contract with private home care agencies if their needs increase to the point that extra assistance is required.

Hospice Services

Palliative Care and Hospice services can also be provided at Youville House allowing Residents to remain in their home through the end of their lives.

Generally, Residents leave Youville House when their medical conditions require on-going skilled care that



cannot be provided at Youville House, or if their cognitive function becomes so affected that they require a more structured or secure environment to keep them safe.

Youville House is staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, with staff available to assist with coordination of care and personal care assistance. It is our goal to welcome and support our Residents, providing the range of services needed to keep them comfortable and safe, and here, in their home.

Please contact me with any questions or special concerns. I can be reached in person at Youville House, or via e-mail at joanneparsons@youvillehouse.org or telephone at (617) 491-1234.

