



Council on Aging  
of Southwestern Ohio

*Answers on Aging*

# *Elderly Services Program*

## FACT SHEET



*ESP preserves independence,  
dignity and dollars*

Nursing homes are important; we need them. But most people don't want to go there before their time. The Elderly Services Program (ESP) makes it possible for seniors to remain in their homes and live by their own rules among the things and people they love.

Nearly 15,000 people in southwestern Ohio receive long-term care in their homes through the Elderly Services Program. This is a win-win for seniors and taxpayers.

On average, services through ESP cost taxpayers less than \$400 per month, per person. This is a fraction of the cost for Medicaid nursing home care, which averages more than \$4,800 per month.

The Elderly Services Program is supported by county tax levies and administered by Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio.

*The Elderly Services Program (ESP) helps older adults remain safe and independent in their homes. It expands care that may be provided by family and friends. ESP can delay or prevent nursing home placement.*

ESP is different from PASSPORT, Ohio's Medicaid waiver program. PASSPORT clients must be low income and severely disabled. ESP allows higher incomes and a range of disabilities from moderate to severe.

ESP may be for you if you are:

- Age 65 or older (\*see back)
- Impaired in certain everyday activities
- A resident of Butler, Clinton, Hamilton or Warren counties

ESP provides services such as Meals on Wheels, personal care, homemaking and emergency response devices, to name a few.

You also get a care manager to advocate for you – a person who has your best interests at heart. Your care manager will answer your questions and make sure you have the right services.

Your care is free of charge, or set at an affordable level depending upon your income and assets.

Find out more: (513) 721-1025, 1-800-252-0155 or [www.help4seniors.org](http://www.help4seniors.org).

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# More About the Elderly Services Program (ESP)

## Services provided by ESP:

- Personal care (bathing and grooming)
- Homemaker service
- Meals on Wheels
- Minor home modification for safety
- Adult day services
- Medical transportation
- Respite for caregivers
- Companion service
- Home medical equipment and supplies
- Emergency response system
- Independent living assistance
- Pest control, major housecleaning
- Care management

Interested families may inquire about Consumer Directed Care, a program within ESP that allows a relative or friend to serve as designated primary caregiver. This program is available only to residents of Butler and Hamilton counties.

## To qualify for ESP, you must:

- Live in Butler, Clinton, Hamilton or Warren counties
- Be assured you can be cared for safely in a home - not institutional - setting
- Be age 60 or older (Warren County)
- Be age 65 or older (Butler, Clinton or Hamilton counties)
- Be impaired in everyday activities such as bathing, driving and preparing meals
- Agree to home visits from a care manager
- Agree to help pay for services depending on your circumstances



*“I want to stay in my home for as long as I can. It takes only a few hours of help a week to make a difference in my life.” - ESP Client*

## Signing up for ESP:

After answering some questions on the telephone, you will be assigned an ESP care manager who will schedule a meeting with you to determine your eligibility.

You will be asked to show documents verifying your income, assets, household and medical expenses. Before the care manager's visit, you will receive a letter that lists the papers you will need to show.

If you qualify for ESP, your care manager will work with you and your family to prepare a service plan that is right for you.

## Depending on where you live, call:

- Butler County: (513) 868-9281
- Butler (Middletown area): (800) 215-5305
- Clinton County: (937) 382-7170
- Hamilton County: (513) 721-1025
- Warren County: (513) 695-2271

(Residents of Clermont County: Contact Clermont Senior Services for information about a similar home care program - 513-724-1255.)

## Southwestern Ohio's Area Agency on Aging Since 1974

Council on Aging is designated by the state of Ohio to serve the older adults of Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton and Warren counties. We are experts on aging with a variety of programs available as free and low-cost public services. **Our mission:** Enhance the lives of adults by assisting them to remain independent at home through a range of quality services.