

# What is ESP?

The Elderly Services Program (ESP) helps older adults remain safe and independent in their homes. It provides in-home care for eligible older adults who might otherwise be forced to leave their homes and enter a nursing facility. ESP expands care that may already be provided by family, friends and other caregivers.



## Who operates this program?

Council on Aging (COA) manages the program for the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners. A volunteer community board is appointed by the commissioners to advise on program needs and policies. COA provides assessment, intake and care management.

## Who is eligible?

Services are available to Hamilton County residents age 60 and older who need help with certain activities of daily living (bathing, cleaning, cooking, transportation, etc.). Eligibility for each service is determined by an ESP care manager during a home visit.

Income is not used to determine eligibility for this program. However, depending on income and assets, individuals may be required to help pay for the cost of their care through a co-payment. More information is available on the back of this brochure, or call (513) 721-1025.

# What kind of help is available through ESP?

**Eligibility for each service is determined by a care manager during a home visit.**

**Adult Day Services:** Structured programs provide a secure, stimulating environment and respite for caregivers. Transportation may be available.

**Care Management:** A professional care manager coordinates your services and monitors care.

**Consumer Directed Care:** Allows client to hire a friend or family member to provide home care services. Eligibility determined by ESP care manager.

**Electronic Monitoring System:** 24-hour, in-home monitoring systems that provide safety and/or medication alerts.

**Environmental Services:** Pest control, major housecleaning and waste removal.

**Home Care Assistance:** A trained aide helps with housekeeping, personal care and other daily activities, and provides respite for the primary caregiver.

**Home Modifications and Repairs:** Minor repairs and safety upgrades such as ramps, grab bars and dead-bolt locks.

**Independent Living Assistance:** Help with benefit applications and organizing personal and household records.

**Meals:** Home-delivered meals. Special diets can be accommodated with a doctor's order.

**Medical Equipment:** Health- or safety-related equipment such as a bath bench, cane, walker or other equipment not covered by insurance.

**Transportation:** Transportation to routine medical and other appointments.

## FastTrack Home

FastTrack Home is a program funded by Hamilton County's senior services levy to give older adults quick access to in-home care when it is needed most – as they return home from a participating hospital or care facility.

FastTrack Home speeds up the normal enrollment process for ESP by determining eligibility in the hospital or care facility. This allows temporary in-home services such as homemaking, meals and medical transportation, to be in place when the older adult returns home.

Services are provided at no cost on a short-term basis to support a safe recovery. Before the temporary services end, patients receive a full ESP eligibility assessment (including income and asset verification for co-payments) to determine if ESP services should continue.

## Funding and cost

The Elderly Services Program is made possible thanks to the generous support of Hamilton County taxpayers via a senior services tax levy. Other funding comes from federal and state money, grants, donations and client co-payments.

To help the program serve as many people as possible with the tax dollars available, some clients are required to help pay for the cost of their care through a co-payment. Co-payments are set on a sliding scale depending on income, assets and medical expenses.

There is no co-payment for FastTrack Home services or home-delivered meals, but donations are welcomed to help provide services to more older adults in our area.



*"I want to be in my home. How can anybody be so lucky?"*

Monica, Hamilton County ESP client

## How do I apply?

Call **(513) 721-1025** to speak with a care professional who can answer your questions, explain services and assess your needs.

If ESP is right for you, a care manager will schedule an in-home visit to verify your eligibility. You will receive a list of information to have ready before the in-home visit.

If you qualify, your care manager will work with you and your family to arrange for the services that best meet your needs.



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**Council on Aging**  
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Hamilton County ESP services are funded by a special tax levy. ESP does not supplant care provided by families but rather secures the necessary additional care the family is unable to provide. ESP expects families to take responsibility to care for family members to the fullest extent possible. ESP does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, color, religion (creed), sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, national or ethnic origin (ancestry), marital status, or disability.



## Hamilton County Elderly Services Program

Helping older adults maintain  
independence in their homes

**ESp** (513) 721-1025

[www.help4seniors.org](http://www.help4seniors.org)