



What is the problem?

By 2040, 20 percent of the total U.S. population will be 65 or older —that's more than 81 million people (U.S. Census Bureau).

Home health aides provide a vital service for older adults who wish to remain independent in their homes while they age. However, there is a serious nationwide home health aide shortage which means older adults may wait months for assistance. Because of this, more family members will be called on to provide care for their loved ones - often on short notice and with little or no training.

What is EVRTalk and how does it help?

EVRTalk is a revolutionary Virtual Reality (VR) experience designed to help family caregivers feel more comfortable with their role.

It presents caregiving realities from both the caregiver's and the care recipient's points of view, helping to encourage empathy and understanding of what older adults may experience when being cared for.

Participants wear a headset and are immersed into a complete environment equipped with digital conversations and graphics.

There are five caregiving-related training scenarios built into EVRTalk.

- Learning Medication Management
- Starting the Conversation on Incontinence
- Talking Down a Hallucination
- What is Caregiver Burnout?
- Having a Conversation About End-of-Life Wishes



(turn over to read more)



Many will benefit from EVRTalk, including...

Caregivers

Through EVRTalk, caregivers will be equipped with discussion points and practices to:

- further understand their care recipient's viewpoint
- help manage the stress associated with caregiving
- introduce methods useful for navigating tough situations and discussions

Family Members

Family members, near or far, will rest easy knowing their loved one is cared for by someone with empathy training.

Older Adults

With caregivers who have been exposed to many aspects of a caregiving situation, older adults will receive more compassionate care. Relationships between older adults, their caregivers and family may encounter less stress.

Employers

With the EVRTalk training experience, caregivers who are in the workforce and juggling many responsibilities will be more confident in their caregiving role.

Community as a whole

With more educated and comfortable older adults and caregivers, the community will become stronger as it looks to COA as an expert on aging resources.

To learn more about EVRTalk,
contact EVRTalk@help4seniors.org.



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