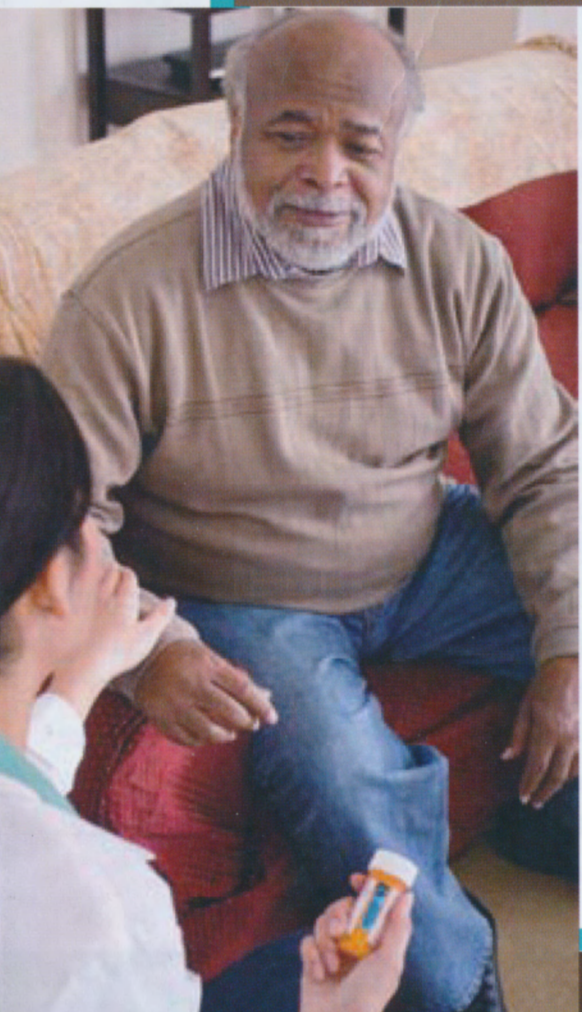
Your Right to Get Information about Returning to the Community



You have the right to learn if you can live in the community and get the services and support you need.

Why does the nursing home staff ask me if I want to talk to someone about returning to the community?

The nursing home staff is required to ask you questions about your care. One question they'll ask is, "Do you want to talk to someone about the possibility of returning to the community?" **Saying "yes" tells the staff you want more information about the possibility of living in the community.** Returning to the community is an opportunity for you to live in your home, an apartment, or another appropriate setting to get the necessary care and services that are normally provided in the nursing home. **If you say "yes," it doesn't mean you have to leave the nursing home or guarantee that you'll be able to move back to the community.** The staff will regularly ask this question, since your needs and the services available in the community may change over time.

What will happen if I ask to speak to someone about returning to the community?

1. The nursing home staff will call a local agency for community living (Local Contact Agency).
2. The Local Contact Agency will call or visit you to learn what services and support you need. Then, they'll look into:
   - Your housing options and/or home modification services.
   - Available services, like help with your personal and medical care.
   - Programs that may help pay for these services, like Medicaid, Medicare, or private insurance.
3. If the services and support you need are available, you decide whether or not to start the plan to leave the nursing home.

Note: You can change your mind about leaving the nursing home at any time.

Local Contact Agency:

(if you prefer to call them yourself)

Nursing home social worker/ discharge planner:

Your local ombudsman (resident advocate):

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