

NEWS RELEASE

Waterford on South Hill



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Waterford adds Medicare-certified home health services

SPOKANE, Wash. — Waterford on South Hill recently expanded its offerings to include Medicare-certified home health and home care services for people in Spokane County.

Waterford's *home health* services include nursing; physical, occupational and speech therapy; medical social services and health aide support. Its *home care* services offer meal preparation, light housekeeping, companionship and other conveniences for people who need help at home. Both types of services are performed in the residences of those just returning from a hospitalization or facing a chronic illness, injury or gradually declining health.

“This is brand new for us, and it complements the other services we offer,” says Jeff Bair, Waterford on South Hill’s executive director. “We emphasize continuity of care. What’s more, when people come into our program, they’re going to receive high touch.”

For clients, much of that touch will be coming from registered nurses and highly trained physical, occupational and speech therapists as well as medical social workers, home health aides and home care workers.

“Continuity of care means there’s a greater likelihood that the same nurse or the same therapist is coming back for most of the visits, versus a revolving door where it’s a different nurse or therapist every day. And that’s a huge benefit for people,” says Bair.

Since home health care services usually are initiated by a physician’s referral,

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Waterford's care is designed to benefit the client's doctor, too.

“Doctors desire continuity of care. They want it to be easy to get the service in the person's home and they want to be kept informed,” says Terri Garpestad, RN, director of Professional Services for Waterford Home Health & Home Care. “We provide all that, and we become the doctor's eyes and ears in people's homes and update the doctor regularly.”

The whole program is geared toward making remaining at home, while still receiving high-quality health care, a viable, cost-effective option for patients.

“Most people who receive home health services tell us they love the benefit, because it allows them to stay in their home — and that is where they most want to be,” says Bair.

Waterford on South Hill offers a wide range of homes and lifestyle options — now including home health and home care services. The full-service retirement community is located at 29th and Pittsburg Road. For more information, visit WaterfordSpokane.com or call (509) 536-2929.