

#### What is Homemaker Home Health Aide Care?

A Homemaker and Home Health Aide is a trained person who can come to a Veteran's home and help the Veteran take care of themselves and their daily activities. The services of a Homemaker and Home Health Aide can help Veterans remain living in their own home and can serve Veterans of any age. Homemakers and Home Health Aides are not nurses, but they are supervised by a registered nurse who will help assess the Veteran's daily living needs.

This program is for Veterans who need personal care services and help with activities of daily living. This program is also for Veterans who are isolated, or their caregiver is experiencing burden. Homemaker and Home Health Aide services can be used in combination with other Home and Community Based Services. Services may vary by location.

Homemaker Home Health Aides work for an organization that has a contract with VA **like Home Instead**. Homemaker or Home Health Aide services can be used as a part of an alternative to nursing home care, and to get Respite Care at home for Veterans and their family caregiver. The services of a Homemaker or Home Health Aide can help Veterans remain living in their own home and can serve Veterans of any age.

## Am I eligible for Homemaker Home Health Aide Care?

All enrolled Veterans are eligible for **Homemaker Home Health Aide Care** IF they are eligible for community care and meet the clinical criteria for the service and it is available.

# What services can I get?

Services are based on your assessed needs. Talk with a VA social worker to find out what specific help you may be able to receive.

For example, an aide may be able to come to your house every day or just several times a week.

Examples of daily activities you may be able to receive help with include:

- Eating and Meal Preparation
- Getting dressed
- Personal grooming
- Bathing
- Using the bathroom
- Mobility Assistance
- Grocery Shopping
- Light Housekeeping



### What are the steps involved in obtaining these services?

- 1. **Check Eligibility** The veteran must be enrolled in VA healthcare and meet eligibility requirements (see eligibility section below).
- 2. **Schedule an Assessment** Contact the local VA Medical Center or VA social worker for an evaluation of the veteran's needs.
- 3. **Get a Referral** A VA doctor or healthcare provider must approve and refer the veteran for homemaker/home health aide services.
- 4. Choose a Provider The VA works with approved home care agencies; <u>Home Instead is a credentialed VA provider through the Community Care program.</u>
- 5. **Start Services** Once approved, the homemaker/home health aide begins assisting with daily activities at home.

To be eligible for Homemaker Home Health Aide Services through the VA, a veteran must meet the following criteria:

- 1. **Enrollment in VA Healthcare** The veteran must be enrolled in **VA healthcare** services.
- 2. **Clinical Need** A VA provider must determine that the veteran **needs** help with daily activities such as bathing, dressing, meal preparation, or mobility.
- 3. Service Connection Status (Not Always Required) Priority is often given to veterans with service-connected disabilities, but non-service-connected veterans may also qualify based on financial need or clinical necessity.
- 4. **Evaluation by VA Healthcare Team** A VA doctor, nurse, or social worker will assess the veteran's needs and determine if H/HHA services are appropriate.
- 5. **Availability of Services** Services depend on **VA approval** and whether VA contracts with local home care agencies in the veteran's area.

For more information, veterans can **contact their local VA Medical Center** or **call Home Instead – Norman** at (405) 805-3026

#### **Other Contact Information:**

OKC VA 1-800-694-8387

OKC VA Community Care Office (405) 456-3276

VA South OKC Clinic (405) 855-6000