

Carers Support Factsheet

Live-in Care specialists

Agincare

Caring in Your Community

Live-in Care

Unpaid carers provide an integral and often unconditional role to family and friends who often could not manage without this help. Agincare works alongside informal Carers every day and recognises that they themselves are expert partners in the delivery of care and support to those they care for.

Our Approach

As an established provider of care services Agincare recognises that there are considerable differences between paid and unpaid care and support work. The latter places considerable demands on the Carer who tries to live their own life, whilst taking on an often full time caring role. We at Agincare offer the following key support services to Carers:

- Signposting to organisations both nationally and within local communities who offer advice and support to Carers and those they care for.
- Access to our extensive range of in-house training courses.
- A carer assessment service to help identify areas of support we and other organisations could offer to Carers to assist them in their caring role.
- A carer respite service to enable Carers to take a break whilst we provide the care and support for the person they care for.

Case Study

"Agincare were contacted by a Carer who is the sole Carer for her son who has an acquired brain injury. The service requested was for Agincare to provide a live-in care worker so that the Carer could take a short break and visit family. During the assessment it was discussed how the Carer was finding it increasingly difficult to financially provide for herself and her son and that she was feeling very isolated and lonely. The Carer stated that she wanted to go back to work but couldn't manage this with her full time caring role. Together we contacted local services in her community and arranged for her son to attend a support service twice a week. This enabled him to develop skills to support self-care, enhance his cognition abilities and to socialise with others at the centre. The Carer was able to return to work on a part-time basis which helped to alleviate her financial concerns and enhances her quality of life."

There are over six million carers in the United Kingdom and 1.25 million people provide unpaid care for more than 50 hours per week.

(NHS Survey of Carers 09/10; Census 01).

Further Information

Carers UK which is a charity set up to help the millions of people who care for family or friends. Agincare are affiliate members of Carers UK. This enables us to keep up to date with the latest changes affecting carers and puts us at the forefront of the carers' agenda.

Carers UK help carers:

- Get the best for the person they care for
- Make the most of their income
- Stay in paid work
- Keep healthy
- Get in touch with other carers for support
- Find a listening ear
- Campaign for change

Carers Trust - www.carers.org

NHS Choices - www.nhs.uk

Carers UK - www.carersuk.org

"A carer is someone of any age who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not manage without this help due to illness, disability, mental ill-health or a substance misuse problem."

Carers Trust



Our Service Offering:

Signposting carers to organisations both nationally and within local communities

Recognising Carer choice through advising on the services and information available and how to access these. This may include financial support, training and Carer groups and how to 'source' and 'purchase' these and other services that are required.

Carer assessment service

A confidential and free assessment and information service, to identify the support we and other organisations could offer to Carers to help relieve the pressures of caring. Carers will be supported by Agincare so that they are not forced into financial hardship and can stay mentally and physically well and can maintain their lifestyle choices.

Access to our extensive range of in-house training courses

We offer training on a wide and varied range of subjects to informal carers. Our training brochure is available upon request and should we not have available the course required we will help source this through our network of external training and care partners.

Carer respite service

Provided for emergency cover and for planned short breaks, tailored to the exact needs of the individual and with the full involvements of the Carer. In the development of a respite care plan we focus on not only the care needs but also the preferences, interests and hobbies of the individual and their desired outcomes. Feedback shows that this approach ensures a positive experience for the individual and for Carer. Disruption to daily routines is minimised and the Carer has peace of mind that the individual in receipt of the care provided by Agincare will be well looked after in their absence.

Testimonial

'I was very unsure of taking time off from caring for my husband due to his dementia as he can be quite demanding but the care worker was really great, my husband was well cared for and I was fully involved in everything she did, thank you'
Mrs.J.Burnley

Care Facts

The following statistics are obtained from the survey of carers in households in 2009/10, commissioned by the Department of Health as part of the Government's Carers' Strategy programme.

- 15% of all households in England contained a carer. This represents 3 million households.
- 48% provided care for 20 or more hours per week.
- 52% of carers said their health had been affected because of the care they provide.
- 42% said their personal relationships, social life or leisure time had been affected.
- 42% had not taken such a break since they started looking after their main cared for person.

Our Training Department works closely with our Group Quality Manager, as well as local and national organisations, to continually appraise and enhance our training portfolio.

Accreditations

