Community Residential Care

What is Community Residential Care?
The Community Residential Care (CRC) program is for Veterans who do not need hospital or nursing home care but cannot live alone because of medical or psychiatric conditions.

This type of care takes place in a number of settings including Assisted Living facilities, Personal Care Homes, Family Care Homes, Group Living Homes, and Psychiatric Community Residential Care Homes. These places – more than 550 of them across the country – are inspected and approved by VA medical center staff but are chosen by the Veteran.

Am I eligible for Community Residential Care?
Community Residential Care is for Veterans who have no support person who can provide monitoring, supervision or help with activities of daily living (e.g., bathing, getting dressed, preparing meals).

Veterans pay for their rent from VA compensation, VA pension, Social Security or other retirement or income sources.

What services can I get?
The CRC program provides room, board, limited personal care and supervision. It can include such services as psychiatric care, primary care, medication supervision, and self-care supervision, if needed.

The Veteran receives periodic visits from VA health care professionals, but most medical care is provided on an outpatient basis at VA facilities.

How do I decide if it is right for me?
You can use a Veteran Decision Aid for Care at Home or in the Community to help you figure out what long term care services may best meet your needs now or in the future.

Ask your social worker for this decision aid or download a copy from the Making Decisions and Advance Care Planning section at www.va.gov/Geriatrics.

If Community Residential Care seems right for you, the Community Residential Care program coordinator or their designee, in collaboration with the treatment team, can help you locate a facility and help with making arrangements.