Who Can be a VA Medical Foster Home Caregiver?

All VA Medical Foster Homes must meet state AB 1821 requirements.

Caregiver must:

• Own (or rent) and live in the Medical Foster Home
• Be at least 21 years old
• Complete the VA application/inspection process for the Medical Foster Home
• Help plan and follow the treatment plan with the Veteran and the home care team
• Have written crisis and respite (relief caregiver) plan
• Receive ongoing training
• Care for no more than 3 residents

If you are interested in the VA Medical Foster Home Program as a resident or a caregiver, please call.

If you are a Veteran, you may also ask your Primary Care Provider to send a consult for Medical Foster Home and the Home Based Primary Care Program.

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(650) 493-5000
Press “0” for the Operator and ask for HBPC
Medical Foster Homes
a Dynamic Alternative to Long-term Care

When living at home becomes difficult, some people would prefer to remain in a home-like setting rather than move to a nursing home. In moments like this, the VA Medical Foster Home (MFH) program is here to help.

MFH is a voluntary care option. We can help you find a MFH that meets high standards of quality care and safety and is a home that is warm and caring. We will ask that you and your family or other support people tour homes before making a decision.

Am I eligible for a MFH?

If you are a patient at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System and have caregiver needs that can no longer be met in your home, you may be eligible.

Care needed may include:

- Assistance with activities of daily living i.e. eating, bathing, dressing, etc...
- Medication management
- Mental health issues
- Memory issues/dementia

Common health concerns include: heart disease, diabetes, substance abuse, Parkinson’s disease, spinal cord injury, and brain injury.

The Veteran is responsible for the cost of a MFH. The cost may be paid using a combination of private income, social security, savings, VA Pension/Aid and Attendance. Charges are based on your care needs and financial resources. You and the caregiver will sign a private care agreement that covers the care needed, the rate, rights, and responsibilities.

Living in a MFH

A team from our Home Based Primary Care Program (HBPC) will visit you. The team includes a doctor, nurse practitioner, social worker, occupational therapist, recreational therapist, psychologist, dietitian, and pharmacist. Team members will visit as needed, to provide medical care management and support you and the caregiver. Other VA programs may also be used to support you and the caregiver.

Medical Foster Homes provide:

- Private/Semi-private rooms
- Home-like living
- Flexibility and choice
- A supervised setting
- Three meals/snacks daily
- Socialization and recreation
- Personal care
- Medication management