



Recycling Project



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People with disabilities may not qualify for disability aids via the NHS Prescription Service so Homewise provides a Re-Use not Refuse Project to give people the choice of purchasing new or recycled aids. All products are cleaned and inspected before being sold on for a fraction of the cost of new items.



£55.00 RRP
£5.00 Our Price



£62.40 RRP
£15.00 Our Price



£54.00 RRP
£10.00 Our Price



£48.00 RRP
£15.00 Our Price

Homewise

(non profit making organisation)

Free advice and support

to help people living with Dementia stay safe in their home

Homewise is at your service
Offering flexible sensitive options that
Meet your needs, to
Enhance independent living, by
Working with you to
Improve your quality of life by providing a
Service you can trust and
Endeavouring always to give satisfaction



Prescription Provider



TRAINED TRUSTED ASSESSORS
FOR DISABILITY AIDS

Bradford Teaching Hospitals' Dementia Project Manager, Danielle Woods, said:
“Creating dementia-friendly surroundings can help patients to be more independent, reduce stress and make lives more dignified.”

Telegraph and Argus News 23rd April 2014



Homewise staff are Dementia Friends (an Alzheimers Society Initiative) and realise the importance of enabling people to live in their own home as independently as possible. We understand the need to alter homes in order to allow people to live in a safe and secure environment. Sometimes, it may be small changes such as changing the colour of light switches from white to blue (people living with dementia find it difficult to see white on white), installing night lights for additional safety during the night, providing signage to doors etc. for daily prompts and fitting grab rails to provide extra steadiness both internally and externally.

Most of these small-type handyperson jobs can be carried out by Homewise staff, who will also carry out a full accident prevention and healthy homes assessment when they visit. This ensures that all Homewise services are accessed to ensure a safe and warm living environment for the client and carer, e.g. if there is insufficient heating or insulation, grants will be applied for on behalf of the client/carers, where appropriate, and, if the property needs additional security products e.g. door/window locks, funding will be applied for, if available.



(Key Findings - Alzheimers Society, Support, Stay, Save)
“Lack of support at home can lead to admission to hospital, early entry into care homes and increased strain on carers.”

Brief Overview

Mrs Z has a diagnosis of dementia and is in complete denial; she is cared for by her husband. There is no formal care package in place and on occasions Mr Z has to leave Mrs Z at home alone. Mrs Z has very bad hand/eye coordination and struggles when she has to take a bath. She is struggling to find things around her home and is leaving her back door unlocked. Mr Z feels very alone and does not know where to turn for help and assistance. Following a visit to his doctor, he was prescribed medication for nervous exhaustion.

Outcome

The following was implemented to aid independent living and reduce the stress and worry Mr Z was feeling:

- A referral was made to Occupational Therapy who installed a bath lift and grab rails to help Mrs Z when bathing
- Homewise installed nightlights and signage was put up throughout the property; this helped Mrs Z with orientation when using the bathroom during the night and aided her independence throughout her property
- A memo minder was put up at the back door reminding Mrs Z to lock it after use
- Assistive Technology was installed through Social Services to give Mr Z peace of mind when Mrs Z was at home alone
- A referral was sent to Alzheimers Society for a dementia support worker to offer Mr Z ongoing help and advice
- Advice was given on how to obtain Power of Attorney
- Attendance allowance was applied for to assist with the costs of future care

Mr Z commented:

“Since I have been in touch with you I have much more support in place. I know I can contact you any time and you will always point me in the right direction. This project has been a godsend and I can't thank you enough.”

Case Studies

Brief Overview

Mr and Mrs Y both in their 80s live at home independently. Mr Y has a diagnosis of dementia and has hearing problems; Mrs Y has early onset dementia with mobility issues and often feels lonely and isolated due to communication problems because of her husband's hearing loss. They are both cared for by a family member who is finding things increasingly difficult. The couple are not eating correctly and are failing to take medications. Mrs Y is in danger of falling in the bathroom due to insufficient daily living aids and when entering and exiting her property.

Outcome

The following was implemented to help the couple remain living at home independently and alleviate the stress that the family member was feeling:

- A Social Care Package was arranged for carers to call three times daily for meal preparation and medication prompts
- Assistive Technology was installed, including falls sensory alarms, smoke detector, flood detector and CO1 detector
- Referral was made to Occupational Therapy and external rails were installed allowing safe exit/entry to their home
- Bathroom aids were prescribed for safer use when showering
- Homewise installed nightlights to help when mobilising in the dark
- Referral was made to Carerslink for Peace of Mind for Carers and sitting in services to reduce the isolation felt by Mrs Y

A family member commented:

"It was difficult at first knowing someone else was caring for my parents, but I now know they are safe, eating correctly and my mum has company calling in throughout the day ; it is a positive improvement for us all."

If a larger adaptation is needed, we can help by dealing with Tradesmen, getting quotations, overseeing works and, upon completion before payment, have the works signed off by the Technical Officer or Occupational Therapist. If funding is an issue, we can give advice on what is available and where to apply for grants or loans and help with applications forms.

Any works identified to assist the person should also have a positive impact on their carer. The person living with dementia should feel less agitated and more at ease in their home, thereby causing less strain on the person who cares for them.



Engaging with Carers

It is vitally important that carers have a good network of support around them. Working alongside Carerslink, we ensure that carers have been assessed for respite and can access breaks when needed. Referrals are made for the befriending/sitting in service for additional respite. If the care needs have changed following the original assessment, we will engage with Social Services on behalf of the carers to arrange a re-assessment. All referrals made on behalf of carers are monitored for their effectiveness ensuring that sufficient support is in place.



(Key Findings - Alzheimers Society, Support, Stay, Save)
"Found that people with dementia and carers greatly value living in their own home but many are not receiving sufficient support and care needed."

Case Studies

Brief Overview

Mr W aged 73 years lives with his wife aged 69. Mr W lives with dementia and is supported by his wife; he has no care package in place. Mr W enjoys attending day care twice a week, which is part funded through Social Services. He has started to become agitated during the night and wander, compromising his safety. Mr W struggles getting into his property and has suffered recent falls. He also feels lonely when his wife has to do errands and Mrs W worries about his safety when she has to leave him home alone. Mrs W is going away for a night and would like an alternative to residential care for her husband.

Outcome

The following was implemented to help and assist Mr W remain safe in his home and provide further support for his wife:

- Nightlights were installed for increased safety during the night should he wander
- Referral was made to Occupational Therapy who installed grab rails to the front and back door
- Referrals were made to three agencies for their sitting in services to help alleviate any feelings of loneliness Mr W feels when his wife has to go out
- Referral was made to Social Services for Assistive Technology (including falls sensor, smoke detector, CO1 detector) providing peace of mind for Mrs W when not in and ensuring Mr W is safe
- Referral made to Care Agency who provide overnight care designed for people living with dementia

Mrs W comments:

“This service has opened so many doors for me and ensured my husband and I get the support we need. I can’t sing your praises enough.”

Brief Overview

Mr X lives with his son and daughter-in-law. Mr X was diagnosed with dementia three years ago and, shortly after, moved in with his son and family. His condition has deteriorated in the last six months. He is very mobile but finds dressing, showering, taking medication and eating difficult to do and needs prompting. Mr X is also prone to wandering, leaving front and back doors open. Both son and daughter-in-law work full-time and have concerns about leaving Mr X at home alone and are considering residential care.

Outcome

The following was implemented to help and assist Mr X remain safe, defer residential care and provide the support needed by his family:

- Lancashire Fire and Rescue Services installed smoke alarms for additional home safety
- Homewise called and installed spring loaded door locking systems for security and a memo minder was installed to front and back doors, reminding Mr X to lock the doors after him
- Nightlights and signage were installed to help with orientation
- A Social Care Package was arranged for carers to call every morning to prepare him for the day
- Mr X attends day care Monday to Friday ensuring he is safe when his family are at work. This also ensures that he has warm meals through the day and reduces isolation
- Lifeline Services were put in place
- Attendance Allowance was applied for to help towards the costs of care

The family comments:

“I cannot believe the difference in our family life ; my father will not be going into residential care , This project has changed the way we understand our father’s needs - thank you so very much.”

Case Studies