

Assisted Living

The next step in the care of our Elders



Continuum of care for Elders and disabled people...

Senior Services

Bethel Senior Center:

Transportation, meals, Elder activities, adult day care.

Independent Living

Ayalpik Apartments & Lulu Herron Center:

Residence for Elders.

Home Care

YKHC Home Care Services: Meeting the initial needs of Elders and disabled people through assistance with activities of daily living in their own homes.

Assisted Living Homes



Nursing Homes



Some of these services are available locally right now.

Others are not.

Why Assisted Living?

In this residential setting Elders can maintain their independence and dignity and stay in their own communities when their care needs escalate beyond what their families or home-based services can provide. They can speak their own language, eat their traditional foods and be near their loved ones.

- Provides a safe, home-like environment with meals, housekeeping and assistance with medication and activities of daily living.
- Allows a choice of care and lifestyle.
- Care provided by personal care attendants and some nursing staff.
- Accommodates individuals' changing needs and preferences.
- Offers cost-effective, personalized care.
- Protects privacy.
- Encourages family and community involvement.
- Elders remain in the community to help pass on traditions and wisdom.



What about a nursing home?

Our strategic plan calls for an intermediate/skilled nursing home in Bethel to be built in the future. Assisted Living is the next step toward that goal.

Nursing home residents may be immobile, requiring total assistance to move, eat, breathe, or bathe. Nursing homes, especially in rural areas, are often located at or near hospitals.

Assessing the need

Home Care

YKHC currently provides ongoing home-based services to approximately 200 people in 37 villages. These Elders receive assistance with activities of daily living. Some could be better served in a residential facility with 24-hour supervision and assistance available.

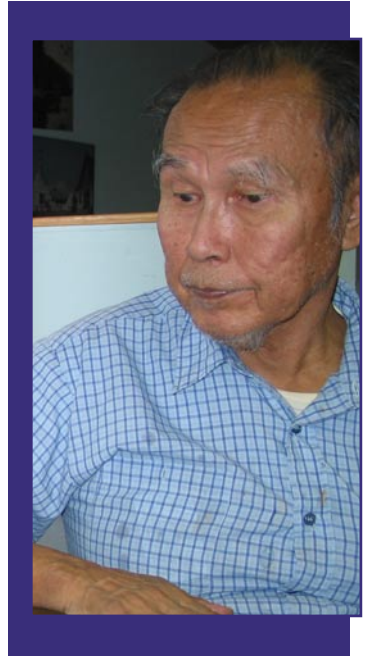
Population increasing, people living longer...

According to the U.S. Census, the population of the YK Delta region grew faster than in the Lower 48. The increase in the Elder population exceeded the general population trend.

By 2018, eight percent of the population in the Bethel Census District will be over age 60. There will also be more people over age 75 who are more likely to need assisted living care.

A local choice...

Rural residents occupy 20 percent of all nursing beds in Anchorage; many are from our region. Others are in Dillingham. Elders could be living here instead.



The Yukon Kuskokwim Delta is the only region in the state without available long-term care options.

Some Elders who choose to stay in the village and receive Home Care services wait until their conditions seriously deteriorate and they have no other option than to leave.

YKHC is currently providing home care services to at least 35 individuals who qualify for Medicaid reimbursements for assisted living and related healthcare expenses.

Doing something about it..

2001
2002
2003
2004
2005

- A multi-agency Assisted Living Home Work Group meets
- Market analysis and feasibility study commissioned
- Public meetings held
- Interviews with Elders, business leaders, service providers
- Construction and operations funding options researched
- Work Group asks Bethel City Council to convey land for an Assisted Living Home
- Feasibility Study completed
- Spring, 2004:** Break ground and begin construction
- 2005:** Open doors to Bethel's new Assisted Living Home

Plans call for beginning construction in 2004 of an 18-bed facility—expandable to 36—to be located south of the Lulu Herron Center.



An assisted living facility is a key element in serving the Elder population as it continues to increase

