



Changing the Way the World Ages One Client at a Time

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**Our mission at Home Care Assistance is to change the way the world ages.** We provide older adults with quality care that enables them to live happier, healthier lives at home. Our services are distinguished by the caliber of our caregivers, the responsiveness of our staff and our expertise in daily care. We embrace a positive, balanced approach to aging centered on the evolving needs of older adults.

#### **Daily Care Experts**

We specialize in around the clock care to help seniors live well at home.

#### Available 24/7

Care managers are on call for clients and their families, even during nights and weekends.

#### **High Caliber Caregivers**

We hire only 1 in 25 applicants and provide ongoing training and supervision.

#### **Balanced Care**

Our unique approach to care promotes healthy mind, body and spirit.

#### **Cognitive Therapeutics**

Our proprietary cognitive stimulation program addresses cognitive decline, building on our expertise in brain health.

#### No Long Term Contracts

Use our services only as long as you're 100% satisfied.

#### **A Trusted Partner**

We're honored to be Preferred Providers for professionals in both the medical and senior communities.

#### Peace of Mind

Independent industry surveys place our client satisfaction rate at 97%.

## FOREWORD

Home Care Assistance was founded in 2002 by Dr. Kathy Johnson after she tried finding care at home for her mom and dad who lived across the country. After finding her father bruised from a fall and hearing that the caregiver whom she had hired through an agency had sent her sister as a replacement without notifying the family, she was deeply concerned for the safety of her parents and realized something had to change.

From this unsettling experience, Home Care Assistance was born and founded on the principle that the caregivers we hire to take care of our clients would also be trusted to take care of our parents.

But we didn't stop there. Yes, it was important that we hire the very best caregivers who were passionate about taking care of others, skilled and rigorously screened, but what was equally, if not more important, was training our caregivers to engage with their clients in a way that would truly improve their overall quality of life and increase their lifespan. To achieve this, Home Care Assistance developed the Balanced Care Method<sup>™</sup>, a holistic approach to care that promotes healthy mind, body and spirit in the clients we serve.

As we cared for an increasing number of seniors, making a positive impact in their lives through the Balanced Care Method, we also noticed that more than half of our clients suffer from some sort of cognitive decline, an issue that affects 35.6 million people worldwide, and a number that is expected to triple by 2050. We decided to take our Balanced Care approach a step further and developed the Cognitive Therapeutics Method<sup>™</sup>, a cognitive stimulation program that aims to improve the quality of life for our clients by promoting brain health through personalized, one-on-one activities that engage the main cognitive domains in the brain.

Through both of these programs and the compassionate, dedicated and selfless individuals – owners, office staff, caregivers – who make up Home Care Assistance, we are truly changing the lives of our clients for the better. We are seeing them live happier, healthier lives with meaning and purpose that some of our clients never had before Home Care Assistance came into their home. Even more touching is the fact that many of our caregivers and clients have developed such a strong bond over the months and years that they think of each other as family.

We are constantly in awe of the incredible seniors we are so privileged to serve and the compassionate, kind caregivers who make a difference in their lives so that they can live out the rest of their years in a meaningful way.

We invite you to read these touching stories about our clients and the remarkable difference that Home Care Assistance has made in their lives and their families lives. Aging is a beautiful thing and something that we celebrate every day with our clients at Home Care Assistance. Seymour H. became a client of ours in March of 2014.

Prior to becoming our client, Seymour was bedridden, had not exercised or left his apartment in months, had been taking his medication improperly, was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and was told by his doctors he would not live much longer.

On a trip to visit their father, Seymour's children were devastated to find him in his current condition. They happened to visit an ice cream shop next to our office and decided to stop in for more information. After we discussed the different care options for Seymour and our unique approach to healthy longevity through the Balanced Care Method, we began working with him the very next day.

The first thing our caregivers addressed was Seymour's diet; they started preparing healthier meals and ensuring he received the proper fluids. Within the first two weeks, he was up and walking around his apartment for the first time in months and talking on the phone to his friends and family in New York again. Within the first month, he was downstairs in the gym on the exercise bike and going to physical therapy. A few months later, our caregivers were taking Seymour and his girlfriend out dancing, to bingo and to the Jewish Community Center where he performed his magic routine in front of crowds once again. Before Seymour moved to South Florida he was the President of the Houdini Society in New York City, thus being able to perform around town again was a very big deal to him.

One big step in Seymour's progress was getting him cleared to travel again by his doctor. Though his friends and family were all living in New York City, Seymour's doctor had told him he'd no longer be able to travel due to his health when we first began working with him. All of that changed in November 2014 after working with Home Care Assistance for eight months. Not only was Seymour able to fly to New York for the first time in months and be with his family, but he was also thrown a 90th birthday party by the Houdini Society of New York City, with all of his friends and family in attendance. Seymour was thrilled to be able to perform some of his most famous magic tricks for everyone there.

During Seymour's time with Home Care Assistance, his caregivers became a part of his family and his family became a part of ours. They frequently visited the office when they were in town and kept in touch regularly. Seymour was one of many whose last years were greatly improved by the quality care we were able to provide. We're privileged to serve and improve the lives of seniors like Seymour and thousands of others.

### Frank, Avid Traveler and Heroic WW II Veteran

Even at the "young" age of 98, Frank was not only living and enjoying a youthful lifestyle, but he was also deeply thriving. This was due largely in part to the heartfelt and dedicated care our caregiver, Merab, was able to provide him.

Merab, who's originally from the country of Georgia, is a caregiver like no other. He came to Home Care Assistance in April of 2011, and hasn't missed a single day of work since. Merab began working with Frank full-time, seven days a week, and has continued to work with him nearly everyday since starting.

Through his encouragement of healthy foods, physical exercise and social activity, Merab fosters our Balanced Care Method in everything he does and keeps Frank living a purposeful and active life.

Merab and Frank have a very special relationship. When you see them together it goes without saying what a warm place Merab has earned in Frank's heart. Merab is not only a caregiver to Frank, but also an advocate, best friend, and a part of his family.



All of us at Home Care Assistance look forward to the bi-weekly photos and home videos Merab captures and shares with us. We've seen dozens of amazing videos of Frank and Merab smiling while traveling all around Wisconsin, and across the United States. Some of the highlights of Frank's adventures with Merab include annual trips to Florida to enjoy the sun's vitamin D and the company of Frank's son, as well as leisurely trips to the shorelines of Door County, along with many other destinations.

Whether the two are at a wedding, fair or around his home town of Milwaukee, we all enjoy seeing Frank's genuine smile in the moments Merab captures on camera. They never miss a chance to explore different cultures, music festivals, natural museums and other landmarks around the U.S. Even with Frank's limited mobility, Merab is constantly seeking more places to venture together. Merab's biggest priority is to keep Frank enjoying all the beautiful bounties life has to offer, while also keeping him mentally and physically engaged in life.

One of Merab's proudest moments was when he had the privilege of accompanying Frank to the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight in 2015 to honor Frank's military service in WWII.

Even though Merab and Frank had recently returned from an annual trip to Florida, Merab decided he was up for yet another cross-country trip with Frank to commemorate his service in the war. Merab woke up with Frank at 3am to make a 7am flight from Milwaukee to Washington D.C. where the pair saw many iconic sights including the World War II Memorial. On their return flight home, Frank was greeted with hand-written letters of appreciation as well as cheers from the Honor Flight homecoming event crowd! Frank had always wanted to take part in the Honor Flight, and because of Merab's dedication and empathy, Frank was able to be honored for his heroic and noble service to our country with his favorite supporter by his side. Seeing the positive influence Merab continues to make in Frank's life makes us all at Home Care Assistance truly appreciate the service and care we get to provide to older adults. Merab is the true embodiment of what Home Care Assistance stands for and we are so proud and excited to see what else is in store for this amazing pair!

## **Daniel T.**, Incredible Tennis Player, Successful Business Man and Honorable Marine

My heart is full when I think about Daniel T. Grandfather, father, beloved husband, wicked tennis player, successful businessman, and honorable Marine, were just some of the ways we came to know Daniel.

Daniel's wife called Home Care Assistance after deciding to take Daniel out of his assisted living facility and bring him home. Daniel had been living in memory care and skilled nursing and was slowly slipping into a shell of the man he once was. At nearly six feet tall, he had dropped nearly 100 pounds over the course of his time in assisted living—a term we hate using because the last thing Daniel was living was his life.

Daniel's wife Barbara wanted Daniel to be able to go outside, enjoy their garden, and sit and watch all of the activity going on with the dragonflies, hummingbirds and turtles who brought the murky pond in the backyard to life. She also wanted Daniel to gain weight; he was skeletal and it was difficult for Barbara to see Daniel without his shirt on since he had gotten so thin. When we first jumped in to help Daniel, our two biggest priorities were to develop a caloric rich meal plan and a strong team of caregivers who could care compassionately for a man who was bed-bound, nonverbal, non-responsive, refused to eat, and who just stared straight through you without any recognition of the world around him.

When you have very little to say, your facial expressions become everything. Daniel had a full set of thick eyebrows on his sunken face and used them to let us know what he liked and didn't like, along with what confused him or made him happy those first few days. Then, miraculously, we saw his eyes start to twinkle and show us how he was feeling. As more time passed under our care, he started smiling and talking again. Going from non-responsive to saying two, then three, then four words...it was exciting to see Daniel's progress each day. And then he started using his hands and engaging with his caregivers by pulling on his sheets, tugging on their shirts if he needed something and throwing around his comfort elephant when he didn't like what was on the TV.

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Daniel was doing remarkably better and when we called his hospice nurse to check-in, she gave me the great news that Daniel was going to be removed from hospice because he was gaining weight and thriving under our care.

But sadly, this wasn't how the story ended.

A week after that discussion, Daniel took a turn and passed away. It broke our hearts to hear the news. It was so difficult to see his wife that night. Though she was in grief, Barbara was relieved to know Daniel was now free from suffering and told us again and again how grateful she was for everything Home Care Assistance did for her family.

When the family slideshow played during the funeral, we did not recognize the 260 pound man in all of the family photos. It was only when they showed the photos of him as a young officer that we saw the young man who we had the honor of meeting 60 years later. The same expressive eyebrows, the thin gaunt face and a slight smile on his lips. Daniel transformed before our eyes, but was living proof to the miracles a caring team with 24/7 attention could achieve. I can only imagine what we would have seen had he lived another couple of weeks or months. For Barbara and the children, they'd already said their goodbyes to Daniel ten years prior. Alzheimer's took from them a brilliant mind, the clever wit and the fierce competitor who loved to serve an Ace to an unsuspecting opponent at a tennis match.

For our care team, it was a short relationship, but one that we will never forget. We'll never doubt the difference we each can make in the lives of the seniors we are so honored to serve. When Filomena first came to Home Care Assistance, she was living alone with limited mobility. She had received care from other home health agencies before, but none were up to her standard.

We first connected with Filomena when we visited her at home for a brief assessment to get a better understanding of her needs and conditions. One thing we immediately noticed when we came into her home was a picture of Filomena in her younger years looking healthy and vibrant. The smile on her face struck us as someone who was happy–a stark difference of the now frail woman that was in front of us.

In having a conversation with Filomena, it became immediately apparent that she was suffering from depression, and it was contributing to her lack of appetite. She was soft spoken, weak, and at times told us the she would prefer to move on from this Earth. We put in a tremendous amount of effort in finding the perfect caregiver for Filomena. During that time, we continuously asked ourselves what led us to Filomena's home–our answer always came back to improving her life for the better. As we continued to search for the perfect companion for Filomena, we came across a caregiver named Adeline who was spunky and experienced. She genuinely cared about changing the lives of seniors, and even knew first-hand the difficulties of aging, as she had experience caring for her elderly mother.

After one week with Adeline, Filomena had a newfound zest for life. In just a few months, Filomena's voice inflection became stronger, her appetite increased and her frailty turned into resilience. Adeline and Filomena have now become good friends. When we check-in, Filomena not only voices her happiness, but also expresses how grateful she is to have Adeline as her caregiver. Our caregiver, Tina B., started working with Jay U. shortly after his beloved wife passed away. During his wife's memorial weekend, Jay's family came home to celebrate her life and support him.

While Jay's family was in town, Tina showed them how they shared the same goals of keeping Jay's humor intact and his witty mind as sharp as ever. Through Home Care Assistance's Cognitive Therapeutics Method (CTM), Tina worked with Jay on social reminisces and was able to remind him of the full life he led, and continues to live. Tina wanted to make sure his children knew that they still had the same dad they've loved all their lives. Thus, she demonstrated this each day.

Tina proudly showcased the CTM activities she and Jay did together and would remind his family that it wasn't about the scores, but instead about bonding and engaging on a daily basis. To this day, Jay's children are not only proud of what their father and Tina have been able to accomplish, but also extremely grateful they could experience Jay in all his witty glory. It's stories like this that keep the entire Home Care Assistance team empowered to change the way the world ages and do what is right for the families we serve.



When we first began serving Nancy she was unable to do many of the things she used to love, like cooking, due to her Parkinson's.

In signing-up for services with Home Care Assistance, her request was to have good home cooked meals and to be able to dance. We assigned a younger caregiver, named Stephanie, whose grandfather also had Parkinson's and was very familiar with the disease. Nancy started teaching Stephanie how to cook the gourmet meals she most enjoyed, and after each meal was prepared they'd take photos of the finished dish.

Cooking with Stephanie really lifted Nancy's spirits, as she was now eating the gourmet meals she had been craving. On top of that, she now had purpose and a renewed spirit.

Stephanie not only enjoyed to cook, but also loved to dance. Together, they'd dance, laugh and enjoy each other's company. Through this companionship Nancy is now living a happier life filled with purpose because she has been able to pass down her cooking skills to a younger generation--this comes at a time when she thought it was impossible for her to help someone else, so it is especially meaningful to Nancy! Home Care Assistance has served Bob and Annie H. since May 2015. From the beginning, one of Bob's favorite caregivers was Michael S. Bob started out as a photographer in the Air Force and from there became a professional photographer for the remainder of his career. Though him and his wife Annie have traveled extensively, one of their favorite places to go is their cabin in the mountains of southern Colorado.

Because of Bob's Parkinson's disease, holding a camera or even getting out of the house for more than a short outing has now become very difficult.

Last October, Annie asked if his caregiver Michael would be able to take them to their cabin for a week so they could enjoy the mountains and watch the changing of the Aspen leaves. Michael was more than happy to accompany Annie and Bob to their cabin, and they all had a very enjoyable trip. Bob and Annie still talk about how much fun they had and how much they appreciated Michael's help. In fact, they enjoyed it so much that they asked Michael to take them back to their cabin for another week.



There is no way they would have been able to visit their cabin without our help. We feel very fortunate to know we've been able to make a small difference in Annie and Bob's life by taking them to one of their favorite places in the world!

# **Mr. N.**, The Man Who Finally Found Hope and Happiness with Home Care Assistance

This warm and fuzzy story is about a man who suffered from extreme generalized anxiety disorder. Mr. N. had care for his wife who suffered from a stroke about five years ago. They used caregivers hired through a variety of agencies, then private caregivers and then more agencies. Finally, due to the extent of care needed, they moved his wife into a skilled nursing facility.

Without his wife, Mr. N. had no idea how to cook a meal, shop for groceries, do laundry or make an appointment for himself. He desperately reached out to home care companies for help, and to get normality back in his life.

Mr. N. was a physically healthy, 81-year-old male. He worked out every day, ate healthy and visited his wife often. When his wife was placed in a facility, Mr. N. spiraled out of control, with the slightest hiccup in his routine crippling him into one no longer able to function. Based on what Mr. N. told us, other agencies did not follow-up on their caregivers, leaving them with no accountability for the services they provided. The caregivers would show up for work, get on the computer or phone and not speak to him. In his words, they lacked compassion, understanding, and didn't want to be there. The agencies would sometimes send him caregivers that never showed up, or if they did, they'd leave and never return, while still billing him for several hours.

Home Care Assistance talked with Mr. N. and his daughter about our services for three months. Although our price was slightly higher than the other agencies he worked with, we had the best programs and care teams in place to ensure continuity of care that would ease his fear of change and give him back the "normalcy" he was so desperately craving.

# **Mr. N.**, The Man Who Finally Found Hope and Happiness with Home Care Assistance

Mr. N. resisted our care for months. Due to his extreme condition, change was crippling for him. He struggled with trusting a new company that said they'd do the same as the last. He couldn't bare the thought of having to "train" someone again, not knowing if they would ever return.

Home Care Assistance took those months to listen to his concerns, understand his expectations and followed up weekly to see how he was doing. We would offer to make him meals even though he wasn't a signed client. We called and offered a hug if he needed one. We showed we cared about him... client or not.

Finally, as he chose to make the switch to our company, we gave him a visual plan as to how the transition would take place. The Client Care Manager, who was already a familiar face, was at his house during each introduction and "training". The entire care team met Mr. N so that he'd be able to put a face to a name, and we made him part of our family. Since we have been caring for him, the feedback from Mr. N. and his family is that he is a new man. He is not only more social and confident, but he also no longer carries fears around being without care or having to figure things out on his own. Our caregivers have been consistent, compassionate and have really gotten Mr. N. to open up and enjoy life to the best of his abilities despite his limitations.

Mr. N. has not been in a ball of fear (literally) since we have been caring for him, and from time to time he calls us to say, "Thank you! You're not like the others...you care!" He has thanked us for "saving his life" and is genuinely grateful for the continuity of care and the quality of caregivers we have introduced to him.

### Carol F., More Than a Client...She is Family

We received a call a little over two years ago from a personal friend who had been burdened with helping out his elderly next door neighbor, Carol F. Carol lived alone and had two daughters who lived in San Diego, CA. The daughters each had busy lives of their own and could only make occasional trips to Phoenix to help their mom. Her condition was getting to the point where the daughters were going to place their mom in an assisted living community. Carol did not want to move, but she also didn't know any other options available to her.

A friend mentioned to the daughters that they should give Home Care Assistance a call to see if they company could help their mom. Since that first phone call we have been providing 24/7 livein care for Carol and have allowed her daughters to regain peace of mind knowing that their mom is being well cared for by a reputable company and a compassionate caregiver named Carmen.

On our initial visit to Carol I found her flat on her back and unable to get out of bed. Through the loving care of her primary caregiver, Carmen, she is vibrant again and even goes to the gym for weekly exercises.



Home Care Assistance has become an extension of Carol's family. She is extremely happy that she has been able to stay in her own home and has developed a great respect for her loving caregivers.

We have celebrated birthdays, holidays, weddings, graduations and newborn great grandchildren together with her, and couldn't imagine it any other way! Molly is something else. At 82-years-old she is incredibly active. She takes classes five days per week, other than in the summer. she tends to an amazing, eclectic garden featuring eye catching yard art. She fusses with the art throughout her house. She plays bridge whenever she can find partners and she loves to host backyard parties for her many friends. She is funny, interesting, vibrant and active. Molly has a great sense of humor and loves a good laugh.

Recently, Molly told us that she was trying to attend the Democratic National Committee. Why? She wanted the biggest Hillary sign they had available so that she could put it in her yard. "Oh, are you a Hillary supporter?" "Not really - I just want to annoy the neighbors," she reported with a huge smile and a mischievous glint in her eye.

When her kids took away her car keys they knew they had to do something. Someone like Molly could not be locked in her house - the isolation would kill her and so would a facility.

Her home is indescribable - whimsical art from around the world and sculptures throughout the front and backyards. Her coffee table is a sculpture of a magician's assistant being cut in half in a magic box with the assistant's head sticking out of one end, hair hanging down, and her legs sticking out of the other. Who wouldn't want to stay in this cozy home forever?



We asked Molly if she feels that her caregivers have made a difference in her life. "Oh yes," she says, beaming at her caregiver Beonca. She and Beonca have been together three years now. "Without Beonca I could not stay in my home and I don't want to leave my home."

Beonca and Debbie ensure that Molly's dog is well cared for and that she gets to her classes (at a participant led program which Molly, herself, founded over ten years ago) and to bridge games. They also help her plan and prepare for parties so that she can continue to live a full, vibrant and social life.

There is no question that the care provided through Home Care Assistance has changed the way that Molly is able to age....and she is aging well, indeed! Juanita's son and daughter decided to look into the services Home Care Assistance offers due to the issues they were having with their mother's current caregivers. They had received reports that her caregivers were frequently leaving her in bed, or in her manual wheelchair, so that she could not maneuver independently. She was often left at home alone while a caregiver went out and there were also unwelcome guests of the caregivers such as boyfriends and children.

An alarm was raised to Juanita's son when he noticed that his mother's credit score dropped dramatically. The caregivers were using her credit cards to commit fraud and to purchase a vehicle.

Before Home Care Assistance took over her care, Juanita was very quiet. She had not left the home in months and was not eating a healthy diet or completing her exercise routines. She seemed reluctant to go to bed and worried that her caregivers would leave her there. All Juanita did was watch baseball and eat. Her house was not in order and the fridge and pantry had many expired food items in it. Since Home Care Assistance caregivers have been in the home, things have changed drastically for the better. Juanita has been to the movies, she has had her nails done and she even does nightly exercises with her dumbbells! Juanita is eating fruit again, uses her power wheelchair, and more importantly, she is empowered to make her own choices! Juanita has even made a new puppy friend named Harper who comes to visit her regularly.

Juanita is a true testament to how Home Care Assistance is changing the way the world ages and helping seniors live healthier, happier lives at home! We had a client named Kitty who was 85-years-old and widowed with a daughter who lived in Texas and a son who lived three hours away. She was a very modest woman who lived in a simple rancher house, drove a thrifty car and led a no frills lifestyle. Kitty had mobility issues, some forgetfulness and was on dialysis three times per week. We provided live-in care for her since she wanted to stay in her home as long as possible.

One day, while we were checking in on her we noticed a picture of two little girls with a woman on a farm. I asked Kitty about the picture and she said that was her adopted mother that loved her as much as any mother would love a child. The other child in the picture was her biological sister. She shared that her adoptive mother had tried to adopt her sister but unfortunately had to go back to the orphanage. This was very sad to us and it was clear that she had had a tough life growing up.

When it came close to Kitty's birthday, our caregivers wanted to throw a big party and worked with her daughter on making arrangements for it. The caregivers, Dorothy and Elaine, arranged the entire party, and even ordered a cake, veggie tray and sandwiches for the guests. They invited the parishioners and family members and held it after the Sunday church service Kitty normally attended.

The daughter called us a few days later and thanked us for helping coordinate the party. She told us her mother had the best time AND it was the first birthday party she had ever had, which was truly touching and an experience she will never forget. One client we've been able to have an enormous impact on is Phil K. When we first started working with Phil, he had a long history of being in and out of the hospital due to frequent falls from overusing prescription medications and drinking alcohol.

Over the year and a half we've been together, Phil's quality of life has significantly improved, in addition to his relationships with family and friends. His primary caregiver has done an exceptional job managing his medications, removing alcohol from his diet, and encouraging him to live an overall healthier life. Together, they regularly enjoy going to the movies, the park, and getting fresh air and exercise.

After building a strong rapport with Phil, he allowed us to arrange in-home physical therapy visits twice a week. With the support of PT and the encouragement of his caregiver, Phil has begun to build strength and stability in his legs again. He has not had any falls recently and has stayed out of the hospital. He has even been able to spend quality time with family or on his own without wanting to revert back to his old habits.



It has been very rewarding to see how much Phil has transformed since we first met him. He has really made the life changes needed to live happier and safer at home. Mary Jane and Cecil are both 94-year-old, retired Alaskan school teachers. At the age of 91, they moved into an assisted living home and their health deteriorated so rapidly that their families decided to bring them back home.

Since hiring Home Care Assistance, Mary Jane and Cecil's health and quality of life greatly improved. Over the past eight months, they've been able to build an extraordinary relationship with their caregiver, Angela. When Mary Jane and Cecil's daughter had her own medical issues, we stepped in to provide her with the 24/7 care she needed to recover.

When we drop by to visit, both ladies are happy, comfortable and safe in the solace of their own home. The family regularly goes out of their way to thank us for all that we've done. This is just one example of why we love what we do at Home Care Assistance! If you have an aging loved one who would benefit from in-home care, we are here to help. Home Care Assistance is the trusted provider of choice for thousands of families and senior care professionals worldwide. For more information please call 866-454-8346 or visit us at www.HomeCareAssisstance.com.



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