

Examples of Care through I-CARE

C-Coordination: *Provide coordination of community-based services and/or governmental services.*

Coordinated services between the VA Medical Center and a physician in the community so that an individual could get his medications covered through his wife's insurance plan and not the VA, saving money on his co-pays.

A-Assistance: *Provide assistance with completing applications for services and benefits.*

Assisted an individual to complete the applications for the HOMESTEAD exemption program and sent in to the county auditor.

R-Referral: *Provide referrals to agencies offering resources and/or support. Make referrals to lodges and/or I-CARE committees*

Met with individuals in their home or in their hospital room and discussed what services are out there to meet their individual circumstances. Made referrals to:

- The local Area Agency on Aging
- Private homecare agencies
- Lodges for individuals who wanted a visitation from a lodge member
- I-CARE committee for a widow who needed someone to carry her water softener salt down to the basement.

E-Education: *Provide education on issues related to accessing services, as well as, education pertaining to senior-related issues.*

Made a visit to the home of a client who was coming home from the hospital following a slight stroke. Met with the caregiver and discussed possible safety risks in the home.

I-CARE Committees

I- CARE Mission

To serve elders and adults with disabilities by helping them to remain independent, living in their homes, and to age with dignity. In its efforts to serve seniors, I- CARE will also revitalize community, stressing the importance of friends and neighbors. The I- CARE Program empowers Masons to continue serving the needs of elders in community.

What does an I-CARE Committee Volunteer do?

As a volunteer you will be doing nothing more than what you are already doing now! You are helping your fellow Masons or Eastern Star members (their families and their neighbors). I-CARE gives you the structure and organization to help you help others.

Areas of assistance can include:

- Transportation (church, doctor appointments, grocery store, lodge or chapter meetings)
- Yard work (rake leaves, snow removal, plant flowers, and minor landscape issues)
- Phone calls or visits to provide emotional support "just someone to talk to". Make calls to widows and members who are unable to attend.
- Read mail, newspaper/books to those with very poor vision.
- Assist with holiday cards (address, mail, pick up cards/stamps for those who cannot get out).
- Errands - pick up items at drugstore, grocery etc.

How to Get Started:

1. Identify a chairperson for the committee who will be responsible for being the primary contact for the committee and handling the referrals.
2. The next step is to get volunteers. There is no limit on a number. There can be 2 or 200.
3. The last step is to schedule an I-CARE Committee Training with your I-CARE Coordinator.



I-CARE

Independence through Coordination
Assistance Referral and Education

Linking Masons, Wives, Widows,
and Eastern Star Members
to Community Resources

Together, we can support
Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth
for us all.



*Addressing the aging needs of our Brethren
and their wives and widows through I-CARE,
allowing our seniors to age
successfully at home.*

West Central Ohio

Offered by:



MASONIC SENIOR SERVICES OF OHIO

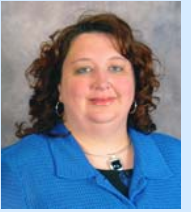
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I-CARE PROGRAM THROUGH MASONIC SENIOR SERVICES

Linking Masons, Wives, Widows, and Eastern Star Members to Community Resources

- The **I-CARE** Program, provided by Masonic Senior Services of Ohio, a subsidiary of The Ohio Masonic Home, is a statewide, community-based program, with Coordinators throughout the state.
- The **I-CARE** Program serves Masons, wives, and widows, as well as Eastern Star members, helping them to maintain their:
 - ⇒ *Independence* through
 - ⇒ *Coordination* of community and governmental services
 - ⇒ *Assistance* with applications, making connections with service providers, and solving problems in those connections
 - ⇒ *Referral* to agencies offering resources or support
 - ⇒ *Education* on issues related to accessing services and dealing with senior related issues
- **I-CARE** coordinators support and accomplish training for a companion program involving lodge and appended body **I-CARE Committees**.
- **I-CARE** Service Coordinators may be contacted by phone, and they will go to a client's home for assessments and discussions.
- **I-CARE** Service Coordinators can help arrange for community based in-home services such as homemaking to assist with cleaning and shopping, personal care, Meals on Wheels, medical transportation, and getting medical equipment. Service coordinators can also assist with applying for benefits such as Medicare, Veterans and Medicaid.
- **I-CARE Committees** are comprised of fraternal and appended body members and their spouses, relatives, and friends who will offer volunteer supportive services to Masonic Seniors in cooperation with their local I-CARE coordinators.
- The **I-CARE** Program services are currently available at no fixed charge. We ask you to consider making a donation to The Ohio Masonic Home, on our behalf, to help fund this program.



Hi, I am Diane Shober, your local I-CARE Coordinator serving West Central Ohio.

I have worked in the Social Service field for the last 20 years, the last 15 in the Senior Service/Aging field.

As the daughter of a 38+ year Mason, I definitely have a vested interest in serving the needs of elder Masons, their wives and widows.

Please call on me with any concern you may have. No question or concern is too small, if it assists you to meet your goal to remain as independent as possible for as long as you can.

Diane Shober, LSW, PSC

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