

# Determining If It's Time to Move Closer to Your Elderly Loved One



Photo Credit: [Unsplash.com](https://unsplash.com)

As people get older, it's normal for them to require more help with everyday tasks, from laundry to lawn care, cooking, and even personal hygiene. If you have an elderly parent or grandparent living in another state, you might consider moving to be closer to them to provide the help they need. Read on to find out if it's time to move and how to go about it.

## **Determine whether your loved ones need more regular support**

When you visit your elderly parent or grandparent, keep an eye out for tell-tale signs that they could use a helping hand around the home. [Common indications](#) include a messy yard, unpaid bills, and a disorganized or dirty house. They may have piles of laundry or dishes stacking up. They may also lack sufficient food because they struggle with grocery shopping.

Further, take a big picture look and consider whether their current home is still suitable. Many seniors downsize and move to a smaller, more manageable property when they get older, for example. According to Architectural Digest, [certain characteristics](#) make a house ideal for aging in place, like a single-level floor plan.

## **Find a new home closer to your loved one**

If you've decided it's time to move closer to your senior loved one, you can start house-hunting. When looking for a place beyond your own community, work with a local realtor. They will know your target area's market and can provide expert insights to help you get a good deal. Real estate agents also have a network they can tap into to find deals.

Before visiting houses, determine a set budget. RedFin recommends calculating your debt-to-income ratio to [figure out](#) what a realistic monthly payment would be. With this math done, you can decide how large of a down payment you want to make and how big of a mortgage you need. Getting pre-approved for a mortgage [can help](#) in a competitive market.

### **Prepare to make a hassle-free move**

Once you have a new home lined up, you can start planning your move. Before you start packing, take the time to declutter your current home. This ensures that you won't waste money and effort bringing belongings you no longer really need to your new place. Nourishing Minimalism provides a [step-by-step guide](#) to pre-move decluttering to help.

You can then find a [moving company](#) in your area to support your transition. Use an online tool like Angi to find multiple movers and do your research before hiring one. Compare reviews online and request a written estimate from each provider. A legitimate mover will need to do an in-home inspection to provide an accurate estimate.

### **Decide what level of day-to-day assistance your loved one needs**

Once you've settled into your new home, you'll be able to spend more regular time with your parent or grandparent. This will allow you to get a better sense of what kind of support they can benefit from. For example, some seniors simply need help with light housekeeping, trash removal, and transportation. These may be jobs you can handle on your own.

However, others may need more consistent care, needing assistance with meal preparation and medication reminders. In this case, you may want to also enlist the services of professionals like [O'Hara Senior Care Services, Inc.](#), of East Providence, Rhode Island. Their in-home caretakers provide compassionate services tailored to each person's needs.

You want your elderly loved one to make the most of their golden years. Moving closer to them so you can provide the hands-on support they need is one way to improve their quality of life.

*For more guidance on making daily life easier for your senior parent or grandparent, [head to O'Hara Senior Care Services, Inc.](#)*