

# **Service Program Feature** Elders Living at Home Program



## **Program Snapshot**

The Elders Living at Home Program (ELAHP) started as a demonstration program with Pew Charitable Trust in twenty cities across the nation. The purpose was to find innovative ways to keep older adults in communities and out of institutions. The program was created in Boston in 1986 by Boston Medical Center.

ELAHP recently partnered with Medical-Legal Partnership to create the Aging Right in Community Program that provides intensive case management enhanced by legal support and expertise to retain housing.

#### Services Provided

- *Stabilization*: intensive case management, nursing assessments, home monitoring, medication management
- Wellness and Nutrition: meals, home delivery of food and nutrition education

# Eligibility

Vulnerable elders who are at least 55 years old and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and are willing to receive stabilization services. Clients are referred to ELAHP by physicians and other care providers, area shelters and outreach programs, housing providers, legal services, adult protective services, and other community agencies. Once initial eligibility based on age and current housing status is established, individuals meet with one of the ELAHP's Case Managers for an assessment interview to address immediate needs, identify barriers to obtaining and/or keeping permanent housing, and discuss potential solutions. The case manager works closely with each client to develop an individualized service plan that focuses on the individual's strengths and challenges.

## Community Highlight Services to Help At-Risk Elders Program Boston, MA

SHARE is a program within Boston's ELAHP that works with public and private subsidized housing providers in several Boston, MA neighborhoods to house and support vulnerable elders so that they are able to remain in their homes.

In the SHARE project, approximately 40 vulnerable elders, who were at risk of recurring homelessness, were helped by the SHARE team to remain in their homes and live as independently as possible. The SHARE team provided these older adults with comprehensive, individualized, ongoing case management and nursing services, as well as links to other essential services and resources. SHARE services include: management of health conditions, including the provision of health education and medication management; assessment of needed medical and supportive services; nutrition assessment and education; money management, banking, and bill payment; accessing food; and social support.

