

Caring for the Aging Baby-boomer

WebQuest Description: Just this past month (October 2007), the first baby-boomer applied for social security. In the days to come, baby boomers will become unable to care for themselves. What are we to do? This webquest will examine the options of care for the elderly based on monetary costs, emotional effects, and personal convenience.

Grade Level: College / Adult

Curriculum: Health / PE

Keywords: elderly care, nursing homes, baby-boomers

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WebQuest URL: <http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=3055>

Introduction

Your father has recently died of a heart attack leaving your ailing mother by herself. Your parents' home is paid off, and your mother is living off your father's retirement pension and social security. She is in good health, but she is unable to care for herself (bathing, cleaning, etc.) What is the best option of care for your parent? Will you put them in a nursing home or find in-home care for your mother in her own home? You need to be well informed in all the options available based on monetary cost, emotional effects, and personal convenience.

Tasks

In order to analyze your choices, you will use the Web to research the different options that would be available to and convenient for you. You need to keep in mind three key aspects of this decision: how much each option will cost, the amount of time you are physically able and willing to spend with your loved one, and the emotional effects that follow. Once you have researched the details of these two options and compared them, you will be able to make a more informed decision on how to care for your loved one.

Process

General Overview Break into groups of two One person should take on the role of researching nursing homes, and the other should research in-home care During your research, develop a list of pros and cons based on monetary costs, emotional well-being, and personal convenience When your research is complete, get together with your group member and discuss your findings. Together decide what is the best course of action for your family Write a summary (roughly one page) on why you chose the course of action you did Nursing Home Research the general costs of nursing homes in your area http://www.aarp.org/families/caregiving/state_ltc_costs.html Research the emotional affects of being in a nursing home http://www.longtermcarelink.net/eldercare/depression_elderly_care_recipients.htm Find a nursing home close to your home that provides quality services <http://www.medicare.gov/NHCompare/Include/DataSection/Questions/SearchCriteria.asp?version=default&browser=IE%7C7%7CWinXP&language=English&defaultstatus=0&pagelist=Home&CookiesEnabledStatus=True> Once you have found a nursing home, make a list of the pros and cons of this situation In-Home Care Research the cost of daily in-home care http://www.aarp.org/families/caregiving/state_ltc_costs.html Think about the emotional health of your parent http://www.usatoday.com/money/perfi/eldercare/2007-06-25-elder-care-emotional-support_N.htm Find an in-home care provider in your area <http://www.yellowpages.com/> (keyword: elderlycare home health services) Make a list of the pros and cons of this situation

Evaluation

Category and Score	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Very Good 3	Exemplary 4	Score
Organization-is the work clean and concise? Refer to both the individual Pros and Cons list as well as the final summary.	The work is haddash and messy with very little clarity.	The work is messy but is a bit more concise.	The work is well organized but a few minor errors lessen its clarity and flow of thought.	The work is well organized with clear flow of thought. All areas are examined and are balance in their importance and information.	%25

Category and Score	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Very Good 3	Exemplary 4	Score
Use of sources- does the person use all available sources not only in context but in an analytical sense?	The person only uses the information given. That is, all their work is essentially a copy and paste list of what was given in the websites.	Most websites and information are used, but in some areas, personal thought is the only evidence when factual basis is also important.	The person uses all the information given but does not analyze it as well as they could	The person uses the information given in both a quantitative and qualitative manner and may have done extra work on their own.	%25
Pros and Cons list	The list is short and not thought out. It is just a duplication of information and not an analyze of the information	The list develops one or two of the areas but the rest is vague and not thought out.	The list is full but still contains some vague elements.	The list is full and completely thought out in every area and angle.	%25
Summary of course of action	The summary is made up of one or more sentences that are brief and vague.	Only examines one or two the reasons why the choice was made.	Gives a good description of why the choice was made but is not as concise as it could be	The short summary clearly shows in each area (monetary cost, emotional health, personal convenience) why the choice was made.	%25
				Total Score	%100

Conclusion

At the end of your research, both members of the group should feel well informed of the many options of elderly care. Remember that parents take care of their children and in turn deserve their children to take care them in the best way possible when they need it. This research should help you plan for the monetary, physical, and emotional problems that you will face. We hope that the theoretical decisions that you have made during the webquest reflect what decisions you might make in real life when your elderly parent needs care.

Teacher Page

Focus: The focus of this webquest is to make people aware of how much time and thought goes into providing care for the elderly. We all have parents and family that will one day be unable to care for themselves, so it is important to plan ahead and think about the various options.
Objectives/Goals: The goal of this Webquest is to present the options for elderly care in a concise, organized manner with the hope that the webquest will one day help the person make the decision of what type of care to give their aging family member.
Resources: The person doing this webquest must be able to navigate the internet with ease and be able to synthesis a fair amount of information in order to make a well-informed decision.
Credits: The resources and web links included on this webquest are external websites and we would like to thank them for creating such useful WebPages.

Standards

Credits

Other