

## WACCRA: Who We Are

The Washington State Continuing Care Residents Association (WACCRA) is a resident-run not-for-profit organization with an elected board of directors.

We seek to help existing and prospective residents understand the world of CCRCs from the residents' point of view, and to provide opportunities for questions and answers.

We work in close contact with all stakeholders including Leading Age Washington, an association representing CCRC administrators.

WACCRA is an affiliate of the National Continuing Care Residents Association (NACCRA). You may visit WACCRA's web site at [waccra.org](http://waccra.org) and NACCRA's web site at [naccra.com](http://naccra.com).



## What Should You Know About CCRCs?

In a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) you, the resident, provide the funding to operate the CCRC through your entry fee and monthly service fee. Management provides living accommodations and services. This seems like a simple arrangement but, as residents of CCRCs know, and prospective residents soon realize, CCRCs are complex business operations. They exist in a bewildering variety of business models. Therefore there is a lot to understand when deciding to move into a CCRC.



As a current or prospective CCRC resident, you should be informed about the following:

- What are your legal and contractual rights, responsibilities and expectations?
- Are there additional fees beyond the monthly service fee in independent living?
- Are there additional fees that you will have to pay when transitioning from independent living to assisted living and/or a skilled nursing facility?
- Are the CCRC's finances & health record sound?
- How will you be notified if your CCRC is in financial trouble?
- What happens to your initial investment if the CCRC goes bankrupt?
- Is your entrance/deposit fee being used for a business activity unrelated to your CCRC, such as construction of a new, separate facility not on your campus?
- Does the CCRC have a fund to support you to remain in your CCRC in case (due to no fault of your own) you run out of money?
- Is your CCRC registered in accordance with Washington State law?
- Does your CCRC provide a statement of expectations for its residents?
- Are residents encouraged to participate, through a residents' association, in considering decisions that affect the operation of the CCRC and directly affect the residents?
- Do residents have a seat on the governing board of the CCRC?



## What Has WACCRA Accomplished So Far?

Through our efforts and those of other stakeholders, the legislature passed and Governor Inslee signed 2SHR 2726 into law on April 1, 2016. The law, RCW 18.390, will go into effect on July 1, 2017.

***This is the first law in Washington State that specifically addresses the interests of CCRC residents.***

- It requires CCRCs to be registered with the Department of Social and Health Services.
- It requires CCRCs to provide prospective residents a disclosure statement containing specific information about the CCRC.
- It establishes specific expectations that all independent living residents of CCRCs are entitled to, and it requires that notice of those expectations be given to each CCRC resident and be publicly available to CCRC residents and visitors.
- It provides that the state attorney general will investigate complaints of failure to comply with the new law to determine whether an enforcement action should be brought under the state Consumer Protection Act.

## Learn More About WACCRA

Contact WACCRA...

- by phone (701) 801-3233,
- web page [www.waccra.org](http://www.waccra.org),
- email [info@waccra.org](mailto:info@waccra.org), or
- send letter to WACCRA, 1420 NW Gilman Blvd., Suite 2275, Issaquah, WA 98027
- Invite one of our representatives to visit your community and talk to interested residents.

*Your voice in Olympia*



## What's In It For Me?

We need your help to become a more effective voice for all CCRC residents in Washington State.

We've made a great new beginning but, with the exception of RCW 18.390, Washington State has no regulations protecting residents living in CCRCs.

WACCRA is your voice in the rapidly changing CCRC world where the interests of management and residents are not always the same. Residents need to know about and understand the issues affecting their lives.

Your membership will give you and WACCRA a stronger voice in Olympia and across the state..

## WACCRA Annual Membership & Renewal

1st Person's Dues (\$30 )	\$ _____	Name 1 _____
2nd Person's Dues (\$25)	\$ _____	Name 2 _____
I want to support WACCRA's legislative work by making an additional contribution to our Advocacy Fund.	\$ _____	Street _____
	\$ _____	Apartment _____
	Total \$ _____	City _____
		State _____ ZIP _____
		Phone _____
		Email _____

Do you reside in a CCRC? If so, which one?

\_\_\_\_\_ Providing your email address allows us to send you WACCRA News-Mail updates.

Please make checks payable to WACCRA, and return this form with your check to:

**WACCRA, 1420 N.W. Gilman Blvd., #2275, Issaquah, WA 98027**

WACCRA has applied to the IRS for 501(C)(4) designation; with this designation, contributions to WACCRA are not tax-deductible.