



Nathan-health care
& social services

Nathan is one of the Israeli leading organizations for elderly home nursing services.

Our vision is to develop the concept and the infrastructure enabling social and medical care for the eligible elderly within the community and the their private home.

Nathan is the authorized private body for training and accrediting of home nursing providers by the Israeli Ministry of Labor & Welfare.

Nathan employs over 5000 trained service providers, supervised by social workers and medical personal.

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We propose to explore the idea of “supporting neighborhood” within some selected EU members as a exploratory model for future implementation.

For quite some years it was recognized by leading gerontologists that prolonging the ability of the elderly to remain in their respective native home is of utmost importance.

It was demonstrated that this enhance the elderly self esteem, welfare and social standing.

Current emerging programs, such as “supporting neighborhood” are being explored in Israel.

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What is “supporting neighborhood”?

Enabling the elderly to remain in their own homes amongst friends and familiar surroundings as long as possible, in spite of the declining health, by delivering needed services to their homes.

The “supporting neighborhood” program addresses the needs of the elderly while still live in the neighborhood by;

1. providing a feeling of security and furnishing medical assistance when needed,
2. providing assistance in day-to-day activities as needed, and
3. encouraging and providing social contact to overcome feelings of isolation and loneliness.

The “supporting neighborhood” model developed has the following key elements;

1. A “neighborhood father” who acts as the coordinator of the program. He or she provides support and assistance, performs minor repairs and supervises major repairs, is available 24 hours a day by cellular phone, and accompanies the community member to the hospital emergency room when needed.

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2. Medical services, including free ambulance service and doctor's home visits 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for a nominal fee.
3. An emergency call system connected to a call center with a portable remote control button and a two-way communication system. This allows program members to speak and be heard from any point in their home.
4. Social activities strengthening the elderly such as enabling workshops for enabling their dealing with their own family members.
5.

Currently more than 100 such supporting neighborhoods are practiced in Israel, serving more than 18,000 members.

the initial investment was provided by external funds, but the running costs are covered by the local community and the neighborhood members.

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Exploration of the “supporting neighborhood” within some selected EU members as a exploratory model for future implementation.

Identifying interested parties – public and private bodies in selected states (the % of elderly is rather different in various EU members¹).

Recruiting selected neighborhoods, academic research staff, SMEs for implementation of smart devices and services, community activist and national elderly organizations.

Continuous monitoring of the activities and their impact.

¹Europe is facing a demographic challenge Ambient Assisted Living offers solutions, VDI|VDE|IT report, 2005.

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