The rising number of elderly Americans, and Americans with disabilities, puts increasing pressure on institutions that provide government-funded, home-based care to the elderly and disabled to find ways to keep costs down.

Now, health care, social service and government institutions are exploring new service models to provide better care to their patients in a more efficient and affordable manner.

Alarm.com partnered with Show Me Systems LLC and 2getherTECH to help providers who participate in Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers. These waiver programs provide services for people who prefer to get long-term care and support in their home or community rather than in an institutional setting. 2getherTECH is an innovator in the intersection of technology and home-based care for the developmentally disabled, working to enhance care and improve efficiencies in services for the disabled population. Show Me Systems LLC works with families and caregivers to find the right assistive technology to support independent living for seniors and individuals with special needs.
Mission

Alarm.com, Show Me Systems LLC and 2getherTECH joined forces to find the best way to implement Wellness technology for service providers who participate in HCBS Waivers. Alarm.com Wellness is an affordable, in-home emergency response and activity monitoring solution that gathers critical data to improve care and control costs. The data provides insight into residents’ safety and wellbeing and can be correlated with other information to get a better understanding of long-term health trends. The system sends custom alerts to caregivers about important events, such as a patient getting out of bed, a missed medication time or appointment reminders.

A pilot program was conducted using Wellness technology to enhance care in a more efficient and productive manner while allowing the individuals to live independently. Our goal was to find opportunities to improve care and make it more affordable.

Solution

Alarm.com’s Wellness solution was implemented in 12 residential homes with 40 residents, aged 18 to 75, who qualify for Medicaid-funded professional support 24 hours a day. 2GetherTech developed an assessment tool to determine where Wellness technology could be placed in the individual homes, ensuring the safety of residents. ShowMe Systems LLC, specialists in system design and deployment, implemented the technology and supported the operation of it. They placed sensors on all exterior doors, in bathrooms, on beds and on medicine boxes to track activities and gather data. Caregivers and senior administrators of the program received alerts about activity that might be a cause for concern.

Small, discreet sensors placed on medicine cabinets or pill boxes indicated when and how often medication was taken, to help ensure that the individual followed their prescription directions. Program administrators used this data to better identify medication non-compliance and to help residents take their medications at the right time if needed.

Bed sensors gave an indication of what time the resident went to bed, how many times they left their bed during the night and when they get out of bed in the morning. This allowed caregivers to monitor sleep habits and better understand sleep issues that may impact behavior. The system sent an alert if the bed was vacated at an unusual time.

Because caregivers were better informed about residents’ activity, the administrator could deploy resources more efficiently. Higher-functioning residents could be left alone for longer periods of time, allowing caregivers to focus their time and efforts on providing services to the residents who weren’t as independent or high-functioning.
Result

Show Me Systems LLC and 2getherTECH’s deployment of the Alarm.com Wellness System provided the critical behavioral information and long-term data needed to improve care and find opportunities for cost savings and efficiency. Because resources were deployed more efficiently, the program achieved a cost savings of $1,000-$2,000 per month, per house. Quality of care also improved because funds could be reallocated to staff pay raises and increased therapeutic services for the residents.

Currently, 98 systems are in place for about 135 individuals. Overnight remote monitoring allows for 8-12 hours of remote monitoring services, and that alone saves approximately $99,000 annually. The Missouri Technology First Initiative has allowed the support provider agencies to use this savings to offer better pay, training and support for its staff, which in turn provides better support for clients.

Because resources were deployed more efficiently, the program achieved a cost savings of $1,000-$2,000 per month, per house.
Alarm.com Wellness

Alarm.com Wellness offers a secure and cost-effective independent living solution with safety, security, and comfort at the forefront.

LEARN MORE