

Define the Service: What is the difference between home care and chore services?

Home care is delivered by a licensed agency. This type of provider may provide care requiring physical interaction with the client. Home care is licensed to help people with their activities of daily living, such as bathing, grooming, getting dressed, etc.

Non-licensed, non-medical caretakers generally offer chore services (also known as homemaker services). Chore workers are not allowed to make physical contact with a client. For instance, if an older adult required help or assistance getting out of a chair, a chore worker could not legally assist that person.

A chore worker is allowed; however, to complete homemaker-type duties such as preparing and cleaning up after a meal, cleaning the house and other chore-related services.

Some licensed home care agencies offer chore-type services as well, so it is possible to work with agencies and care staff who can manage household affairs and who can also extend hands-on care services to one or more adults, or to the disabled.

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