

# The Checklist: Comparison of Service Level Guarantees

No Other Company Promises The Same Service, Protection and Peace of Mind

#### Toll Free (800) 777-4750 - San Marcos (760) 744-8200 - Carlsbad (760) 729-5992 - www.TrustworthyCare.com

	A Servant's Heart Senior Care	Brand X	Brand Y
What are the most important questions to ask a home care	company?		
How do you select your caregivers? Do you have specific selection criteria?	YES		
	We use ten very specific selection and screening		
	criteria, described in more detail below.		
Are your caregivers all employees of your company or are they independent	YES		
contractors?	Our caregivers are all company employees.		
Do you promise that you will NEVER miss a scheduled shift? If so, what	YES		
structure do you have in place to keep that promise?	We always have backup caregivers on call and		
	we have special technology in place to make sure		
	that OUR caregivers are truly on the job when		
	and where they are supposed to be.		
Have you EVER placed any caregivers who were later proven to be guilty of	NO		
dishonest acts or client abuse?	We have never had such incidents.		
	We attribute this to our stringent caregiver		
	screening and selection criteria and to our		
	frequent, close supervision of our caregivers.		

Does your company provide care for both short visits and a	ound-the-clock care?	
Can you provide around-the-clock care? (i.e. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week)	YES	
	We offer both hourly care and live-in care for	
	clients who require around-the-clock care	
For less than around-the-clock care, what are your minimums?	Four to Eight Hours per Visit (in most areas),	
	depending upon availability of caregivers	

How do I know that my caregivers will be properly supervised and quality control will be maintained?		
Does your agency conduct recurring quality control visits by an agency	YES – Depending upon the level of service that	
representative to ensure that all promised service is being prepared and all	we are providing, such visits are conducted as	
agency standards are being maintained?	frequently as once a week.	

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What happens if my assigned caregiver gets sick or cannot c	ome for some other reason?		
Do you promise that your agency will NEVER miss a scheduled shift?	YES		
Has your agency EVER missed a scheduled shift?	NO		
Can I speak to an agency representative at any hour of the day or night if I have	YES – Our phones are answered at ALL times		
an emergency?	by an agency representative		
Do you have systems in place to alert you if a caregiver does not arrive on time	YES – An alert message is sent to designated		
for a scheduled shift?	agency representatives if a caregiver does not		
	clock in when a visit is scheduled to start. A		
	specific company representative is always "on d"		
	to respond to such alerts and to ensure that		
	service is provided.		

How do you make sure that my caregiver will know where I	live and what my needs are?	
Do you conduct a complete assessment before beginning to provide service?	YES	
Do you maintain a complete plan of service binder at my home with complete instructions regarding my routine care needs?	YES	
In the plan of service binder at my home are there also complete instructions regarding what to do in the event of an emergency, including <b>evacuation plans</b> ?	YES	
Will I get to meet my caregiver before care begins? How can I be certain that my caregiver will know where I live?	YES – Whenever a caregiver and a client are going to meet for the first time, an agency representative personally leads the caregiver to the client's home and introduces the client to the caregiver.	

Am I protected against claims brought by my caregivers aga	inst me or my family?	
Are your caregivers EMPLOYEES of your agency so that I am not responsible	Yes – We are the EMPLOYER of our caregivers.	
for payroll taxes, workers compensation insurance and bonding? (If not, who IS	We are responsible for all aspects of our	
the employer of the caregivers?)	caregivers' supervision, employment, safety and	
	protection.	



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How do you select and hire your caregivers? How can I be contrustworthy?		ent and	
Are formal training, certification or experience required?	<ul> <li>To work for our agency as a Home Care Aide, each Home Care Aide must either:</li> <li>1) Be a Certified Nurse Assistants, or</li> <li>2) Have significant prior caregiving experience</li> </ul>		
	To work for our agency as a Companion, each Companion must demonstrate competency in all Companion tasks before working with our clients.		
Driver's license required?	YES for caregivers working with clients who require transportation		
Proof of car insurance required?	YES for caregivers working with clients who require transportation		
Good driving record required?	YES for caregivers working with clients who require transportation		
Do you do a criminal background check on your caregivers, and if so, how?	YES – We use a detective agency that checks for ANY convictions in the criminal court records in ALL the counties for the past 7 years (the maximum period permitted by California labor law).		
Do you require that all employees be United States residents for at least the past seven years? This is relevant for the sake of performing a meaningful criminal background check – if someone has lived outside the USA a complete criminal records check really cannot be conducted.	YES – to ensure that they have no criminal history – otherwise, they have to work for some other agency		
Do you require that your caregivers have CURRENT TB test clearance?	YES – Our caregivers must renew their TB certification annually.		
Do you test new caregivers to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills required to provide competent care?	YES – we test them during our interview process and we evaluate their knowledge, skills and performance at least annually.		



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How do you select and hire your caregivers? How can I be c	ertain that my caregivers will be compete	ent and	
trustworthy? (Continued)			
Do you make sure that your caregivers renew their driver's license, auto insurance, auto registration, Certified Nurse license, TB clearance and other significant permits and documents before they expire?	YES – We have a computer system that tracks these renewal dates and we work with the caregivers to ensure that they know when these renewals are due. If caregivers fail to renew any of these items, they are immediately taken off their assignments and replacements are assigned to their clients.		

# What benefits do you provide to your caregivers so that they continue to learn and grow professionally and personally?

Do you provide health benefits to your caregivers?	YES	
Do you provide paid "vacation" or other types of <b>paid time off</b> ?	YES	
Do you provide ongoing training and continuing education?	YES	
Do you have a California certificate authorizing you to provide continuing	YES	
education credits for Certified Nurse Assistants?		

Are you an established, credible company with identity and history in North County?			
Do you have real offices or do you operate from your home?	YES – We have offices in San Marcos with over		
(Some agencies operate from the owners' living room or garage.)	2000 feet of office, training, and operations		
	management space.		
Do you carry professional liability insurance? If so, how much?	YES – We carry a \$1 Million Professional		
	Liability Insurance policy		
Do you have a website were we can go for more information?	YES – Our website is at		
	www.TrustworthyCare.com		

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Is your agency accredited or licensed?			
Is your agency a member of any organizations that set and maintain standards of	8		
conduct for their members?	organizations, all of which set such standards of		
	conduct for their members:		
	BBB - Better Business Bureau of San Diego		
	CAHSAH – California Association for Health		
	Services at Home		
	SDCRHCC - San Diego County		
	Regional Home Care Council		
Is your agency licensed by the state?	California does not require licensing for non-		
	medical in-home care, and does not regulate non-		
	medical in-home care agencies. Therefore each agency sets its own standards and criteria for		
	hiring and delivering care. Clients and their		
	families must find competent, trustworthy		
	agencies to work with by considering the factors		
	described in this document.		
	When non-medical home care agencies claim to		
	be "licensed" they really only have a city		
	business license, which is nothing special.		
	We believe that the state <u>should</u> regulate and		
	supervise non-medical home care!		
	Our founders played a key role in the drafting		
	and introduction of AB 853, the Home Care		
	Services Act of 2007, which will remedy this		
	situation.		
Is your agency accredited?	NO – There are no relevant, meaningful		
	accreditation authorities for non-medical, home		
	care aide / companion agencies at this time.		