

## What is a Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS)?

Certified Aging in Place Specialists (CAPS) help people who want to make their homes a home for a lifetime. CAPS professionals have been taught the strategies and techniques for designing and building aesthetically enriching, barrier free environments.

For the older population, this may mean the difference between being able to stay in their homes or moving in with family, assisted living or nursing home.

The aging in place design concept is great for anyone with physical limitations but it is also beneficial for everyone.



Certified  
Aging-in-Place  
Specialist

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Putnam County Council on Aging  
1425 E. Fourth Street  
Ottawa, Ohio 45875  
419-523-4121  
Toll-free 1-877-796-1760  
[www.putnamcouncilonaging.org](http://www.putnamcouncilonaging.org)  
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Putnam County Health Department  
256 Williamstown Road  
Ottawa, Ohio 45875  
419-523-5608  
[www.putnamhealth.com](http://www.putnamhealth.com)  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Aging in Place Home Assessment Program



## There's no place Like Home!



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United Way  
of Putnam County



Partner Agency



## What Does It Mean to Age In Place?

Aging in Place simply means to be able to remain in your home as you grow older and your needs and abilities change. Staying in your home may mean making home modifications that can help you live more comfortably and safely.

## What is a Home Assessment?

A home assessment is focused on safety, accessibility and fall prevention. The entrance, kitchen and bathroom will be areas of concentration. For example, items to be accessed in the bathroom include: flooring, lighting, counter height, faucets, height of toilet and ability to enter the shower/tub. A Certified Aging in Place Specialist will complete the home assessment.

## Who Is Eligible for the Home Assessment Program?

Putnam County residents, age 60 and better. There is no cost for the program, but donations are graciously accepted to help support the program.

## How Does the Program Work?

**Step 1:** Contact the Putnam County Council on Aging at 419-523-4121 to sign up for the program.

**Step 2:** A Certified Aging in Place Specialist will call to schedule a day and time to come to your home.

**Step 3:** During the home assessment, the Aging in Place Specialist will assist you in completing a fall efficacy scale and fall self-assessment. Your home will be assessed for safety, accessibility and fall prevention. Pictures of your home may be taken.

**Step 4:** Upon completion of the home assessment, the Aging in Place Specialist will write a report with recommendations. Pictures of your home may be included in the report.

**Step 5:** The Aging in Place Specialist will call and schedule a day and time to return to your home to review and explain the home assessment report to you. A copy of the report will be given to you.

**Step 6:** Council on Aging chore workers will work with the client to make necessary home modifications, which fall within the agency's skill level. The client may be responsible for the cost of equipment/supplies that may be needed for the modifications.

Home modifications is one way to help older adults remain in their home. Modifications are designed to increase safety, independence, and usability of the home.

**Step 7:** The Council on Aging Community Outreach Coordinator will work with the client to see if adaptive equipment is needed through the Council on Aging Loan Closet or through a local medical equipment provider.

