

Pet Friendly Senior Community Living

By C.R. Walker

You can never undervalue the many benefits of having a pet, regardless if you're a child and learning how to care for them responsibly, or a senior who simply couldn't imagine not having a cute companion always by your side.

Could you imagine if someone told you that you couldn't have a pet any longer?

Unfortunately, that sometimes happens when one moves into a retirement community, but thankfully there are many communities that recognize that some residents want pets and they've accommodated them.

Many seniors who finally move away from home have to cope with the emotions of relocating, which often includes downsizing. That shouldn't include saying goodbye to someone who truly is considered a part of the family.

At McHenry Villa, residents have many options for aging in place and the community is pet friendly. Obviously, residents might encounter health changes that require them to pursue additional care. With 24-hour caregivers, an onsite wellness center, home health nursing, physical therapy, as well as doctors who make house calls, residents can age in place within the community. With the appropriate care, residents and their pets can enjoy the comforts of home throughout the changes that occur in life.

In fact, pets often have a lot to do with the improved health of seniors. Studies have shown that owning a pet can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, alleviate depression-like symptoms, increase social activity and provide some physical wellness by going for walks and getting outdoors.

Pet owners aren't the only ones who benefit from pet friendly assisted living either. The other residents may engage in some social interaction, something they may not have done previously. An entire community can truly benefit when it's a pet friendly one.

For those looking for senior living that's pet friendly, be sure to ask that question when comparing and contrasting facilities.

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