As we grow older, we often need more support to live safe, healthy lives. Although nursing facilities are an option for providing round-the-clock care, it’s important to remember that in Massachusetts you have many options for receiving care at home.

PBS’ Need to Know recently covered an innovative approach to care-giving in Rhode Island, in which caregivers are paid by the state to provide a high level of support to a single individual in their home. Smart solutions like this benefit everyone involved:

- The state generates savings from reduced Medicaid costs. Payments to the caregiver are less than the cost of nursing facility placement, and individuals with a full-time caregiver generally are hospitalized less often.
- The individual receiving care is able to remain at home, within their community.
- The caregiver – often a loved one – receives financial compensation for their time and support.

Massachusetts offers several similar initiatives, including the Adult Foster Care program and the Personal Care Attendant program. Our Home Care program can also provide a significant amount of support in the home. If you’d like to discuss the full range of options available to you, consider making an appointment with our Options Counselor. As always, call Boston ElderINFO at 617.292.6211 to make a referral, or fill out our online form.

P.S.: If you are a caregiver and looking for some additional support or advice, please consider contacting our Family Caregiver Support Program.