

THE LONG TERM CARE DISCUSSION GROUP

A VOLUNTARY INDEPENDENT GROUP THAT MEETS FOR THE PURPOSE
OF EDUCATING THE POLICY COMMUNITY ON ALL FACETS OF LONG TERM CARE

December 14, 2011
3:30 pm Eastern Time

America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW - 5th floor
Washington, DC 20004

"Home Design for Aging in Place – History and State of the Art of Universal Design"

Speaker: Al Graf, architect and owner of AEG Associates

The term "universal design," coined in the 1980s, describes the concept of designing products and the environment to be both aesthetic and usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or status in life. Prior to that, the book "Designing for the Disabled" (1963) pioneered the concept of free access for persons with disabilities, for instance, dropped curb cuts. It emerged from slightly earlier barrier-free concepts, but the broader concept now is to also blend aesthetics into these core considerations. As the population ages, there will be a greater number of Americans with significant functional limitations, illnesses or other conditions making universal design a more critical need.

An important part of planning ahead for future long term care needs is keeping the key principles of Universal Design in mind when selecting, designing, modifying or building a home. Our speaker will discuss how this is being done today with contemporary, attractive, creative designs that serve equally well for those currently fully functional as well as for individuals who have or expect to have diminished functional capacity as they age or become ill. He will explain the ways in which this stunning open-plan great room and other elements of this home are fully accessible without appearing so.



Al Graf is an architect, lives in Annapolis and is owner of AEG Associates. He has spent more than 25 years in health care design, primarily in hospital and medical center settings. He has designed over fifty projects during his career that span the spectrum from comprehensive master plans to major medical centers along with a sprinkling of support building and interior renovations. His practice has taken him to more than twenty states and scores of cities during the research and development phases involving state of the art modalities.

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**Long Term Care Discussion Group Co-Chairs:
Winthrop Cashdollar, John Cutler, Karl Polzer, Jill Randolph, and Eileen J. Tell**

For more information about the Long Term Care Discussion Group, and to access materials and information relating to previous meetings, visit www.ltcdiscussiongroup.org