



AddnAide helps Dennis get care to stay at home

A lifelong Cincinnati, Dennis grew up on Broadway watching riverboats come and go from the city. "The riverfront was my playground," he said.

The family home was located next to the jail. With five brothers and two sisters, Dennis' parents frequently threatened jail time if they misbehaved. Dennis believed them.

In the 1960s, Dennis and a buddy decided they would avoid the draft and enlist in the Army. He ended up serving four years in the infantry.

After serving his country, Dennis owned a hair salon for 40 years and then took up carpentry, installing kitchen and bathroom cabinets.

According to Dennis, there wasn't much difference between the two trades: "In either case, you measure twice and cut once," he said.

Today, Dennis lives in an apartment in Clifton. He enrolled in Hamilton County's Elderly Services Program (ESP) when he cut back on driving and it became difficult to manage household tasks. Dennis has COPD and is on oxygen, so he lacks the stamina to do things like cleaning, laundry or grocery shopping, on his own.

At first, Dennis had an aide through a home care agency. But, due to a shortage of home care workers, it was difficult to get the consistent service he needed.

Then, his Council on Aging care manager told him about AddnAide, an app created by Council on Aging subsidiary home52 to help ESP clients match with community members who are available to provide home care services.



A chief goal of AddnAide is to expand the local home care workforce by inviting community members who have the time and interest to serve as caregivers.

AddnAide gives older adults more control over their care. They can browse profiles and have secure conversations with potential caregivers, and then extend an offer of employment when they find a good match. All AddnAide caregivers complete a required background check.

AddnAide also provides the ability for older adults to invite someone to become a caregiver in the app. Dennis knew someone in his apartment building who was willing to help. With his care manager's help, Dennis sent an invite to his neighbor through AddnAide.

"[My aide] does a great job for me - we're a team," Dennis said. "It's gotten so that she just comes in and knows what to do." Dennis' aide sweeps and mops, cleans the bath and kitchen and helps with his laundry, when needed.

Dennis uses AddnAide to approve his aide's timecards and schedule their appointments. He can receive messages from his aide and his care manager in the app. "I'm pretty savvy with the app," he said. "It's easy - self-explanatory."

To learn more about AddnAide
visit home52.org/addnaide