Making a decision to move into a residential facility such as an Assisted Living Facility (ALF) or a Medicaid Waiver Group Home can often be an exciting, yet difficult choice to make. Your Colonial Behavioral Health (CBH) Case Manager can assist you with selecting a residential placement that will meet your needs. However, ultimately where you live is your choice (or your guardian’s choice) and honoring your choice is in accordance with CBH’s Human Rights Policy specific to providing person-centered services.

In an attempt to provide general guidance for selecting a potential ALF or Group Home, CBH strongly encourages you to view the websites below to learn more about a facility. These websites provide public information regarding the status of the provider in accordance with the status of their license and their compliance to the regulations that are required specific to the operational practices of the home.

- **Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) – Assisted Facility Search**
  
  [https://www.dss.virginia.gov/facility/search/alf.cgi](https://www.dss.virginia.gov/facility/search/alf.cgi)

Directions: Enter the name of the ALF you are interested in viewing or search for an ALF by location or zip code. Click on the name of the facility to see more details about the ALF. For each ALF you can view information to include the number of residents, last DSS review dates, compliance issues, etc.

You will need to select an ALF that offers the type of care you may need. There are three types of ALFs providing different levels of care. You can search by the type of ALF to see facilities located throughout the state. The three types of ALFs are the following:

- **Non-Ambulatory** - Facilities with this qualification are permitted to care for residents who by reason of physical or mental impairment are not capable of self-preservation without the assistance of another person.

- **Assisted Living Care** - Level of service provided by an assisted living facility for adults who require assistance with at least two activities of daily living. Included in this level of service are individuals who require assistance because of significant behavior problems. Facilities licensed for the assisted living level of care also may provide care to residents who require only the residential level of care.

- **Special Care Unit** - A self-contained safe, secure environment for individuals with serious cognitive impairments due to a primary psychiatric diagnosis of dementia who cannot recognize danger or protect their own safety and welfare. There may be one or more self-contained special care units in a facility or the whole facility may be a special care unit.
- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) - Licensed Provider Location Search: [http://wwwdbhds virginia.gov/quality-management/Licensed-Provider-Location-Search](http://wwwdbhds virginia.gov/quality-management/Licensed-Provider-Location-Search)

  - Licensed Provider Location Search: Use this site to find more information about Group Home providers that have been licensed or are in the process of being licensed by DBHDS. [http://lpss.dbhds.virginia.gov/lpss.aspx](http://lpss.dbhds.virginia.gov/lpss.aspx)

    Search instructions: Click on the drop-down box arrows to refine your selections. Click on the "+" (plus sign) to display more detailed information.

  - Licensed Provider Inspection/Investigation Reports: Use this site to find information about providers in Virginia who are licensed by DBHDS. [http://lpss.dbhds.virginia.gov/](http://lpss.dbhds.virginia.gov/)

    Search instructions: Click on the Provider drop-down box (gray arrow), scroll down and click on the desired provider name. Next, click on the Services drop down box (blue arrow), scroll down and click on the desired provider service-location. Finally, select a Report Type to view any inspection or investigation report completed after January 1, 2012.

If you need assistance with viewing these websites, please do not hesitate to let your CBH Case Manager know and they can help you.

Your CBH Case Manager is also available to assist you with touring the residential facilities you have selected. It is important that you and possibly a family member tour facilities in advance of moving in so you can make an informed decision about where you have chosen to live.

**IMPORTANT:** After you have moved into an ALF or a Group Home, if at any time you feel your rights have been violated by others in the facility or you have been abused in any way, please be certain to let your CBH Case Manager know you are no longer satisfied with living at the facility and need assistance with finding a different place to live.