Questions to Ask When Visiting a Nursing Home February 2013

- What is the physical appearance of the nursing home? Is it clean and safe for residents? State standards require that a home provide a safe environment for residents whether they are mobile or in wheelchairs, whether they are confused or have poor eyesight.
- 2. What is the quality of the food served and mealtime experience? Mealtime is an important part of the residents' day. Try to visit during mealtime and observe the way food is served and how the staff and residents interact.
- 3. Is there adequacy of Medical/Nursing Care? Does the same nurse or aide care for the resident during each shift, what physicians care for residents? Does the nursing home accommodate special therapies such as speech or physical therapy?
- 4. Does the nursing home provide adequate Dementia and Alzheimer care? What expertise does the staff have and what special activities are offered to the residents with Dementia?
- 5. Does the nursing home provide an adequate activities and pastoral programs? All homes are required to offer activities for residents. As you visit homes, you may find a great difference in the way activities are offered. Ideally, a program should be designed to fit the interests and skills of each person and be available on a daily basis at various times of the day including weekends.