PURPOSE

To ensure that all residents have a lockable storage area for safekeeping of personal items and to inform residents and their representatives of the reality that due to the disease process of dementia, the safety of items brought into the building cannot be guaranteed.

POLICY

The disease process of dementia increases the likelihood that a resident’s personal belongings may be misplaced or discarded, clothing may be worn by another resident and/or damage to items may occur. Individuals with dementia have a tendency to hide things, throw items away, misplace items and forget the proper use and care of personal appliances such as dentures, hearing aids and glasses. Ageia Health Services cannot be responsible for items in the possession of residents; however we will take every precaution to ensure the safety of a resident’s belongings. We ask that residents and/or their representatives refrain from bringing items of great value into the community and encourage them to obtain personal property insurance to provide replacement coverage for necessary personal items. This policy does not waive a resident’s right to seek remedy in the event community staff is found to be negligent in the safekeeping of a resident’s possessions.

Ageia Health Services will provide a lockable storage space (e.g., drawer, cabinet, or closet) for the safekeeping of a resident’s small valuable items and funds. A key will be kept by the administrator and one will be given to the resident/family/or guardian if the resident/family/or guardian wishes to utilize the lockable storage space.
At the time of move in the resident/family/guardian will be informed of the option for lockable storage and any applicable charge for replacing lost keys.

PROCEDURES

- Give copy of policy to the resident/family or guardian at the time of move in.
- Review policy with resident/family/guardian.
- Obtain signed acknowledgement of receipt of policy.
- Have resident/family/guardian sign key log acknowledging receipt of key

FORMS

Key log