



What is the Senior Housing Assistance Repair Program?

The Senior Housing Assistance Repair Program (SHARP) is a minor home repair program for older Philadelphians. SHARP improves the safety and security of homes by making repairs for older persons who can no longer perform such tasks. SHARP also makes home modifications for older people with physical disabilities to enable them to live more independently or to more easily accomplish important tasks. All SHARP services are provided at no cost to the homeowner. No lien is ever placed on the property.

SHARP is funded by the City of Philadelphia with Community Development Block Grant funds and the Pennsylvania Department of Aging.



Philadelphia Corporation for Aging (PCA), a private, non-profit Area Agency on Aging, was established in 1973 to coordinate social services for Philadelphians who are older or who have disabilities and to assist them in achieving optimum levels of health, independence, and productivity. One of the region's largest non-profit organizations, PCA is funded in part by the federal Older Americans Act, Medical Assistance, and the Pennsylvania Lottery, all channeled through the Pennsylvania Department of Aging.

Guided by its Board of Directors and an Advisory Council, PCA employs more than 650 people and contracts with over 100 community organizations and service providers to deliver a variety of services to more than 100,000 older Philadelphians and people with disabilities each year.



PHILADELPHIA CORPORATION FOR AGING™

642 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130-3409

Administration: 215-765-9000 • Fax: 215-765-9066

PCA Helpline: 215-765-9040

215-765-9041 (for hearing impaired)

www.pcaCares.org

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Photos by Ed Eckstein

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HOUSING



Senior Housing Assistance Repair Program SHARP



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Enriching lives, preserving dignity.™



What can SHARP offer?

Safety and Security

- Install exterior doors with dead bolt locks; window locks
- Install smoke alarms
- Repair or replace wooden basement steps
- Install 1 or 2 windows

Basic Repairs

- Repair leaky faucets and toilets
- Install shut-off valves
- Repair door bell systems
- Replace electrical switches, receptacles, and fixtures

Home Modifications

- Adapt existing bathroom fixtures, install grab bars, tub benches, and hand-held showers
- Install hand railings
- Install intercom systems

Who is eligible?

To receive SHARP services, applicants must be:

- Homeowners living in the City of Philadelphia;
- Currently 60 years of age or older;
- Residing in a structurally sound property with all utilities functioning;
- Income less than 150% of the poverty level; and
- No SHARP services during the last five years.

SHARP is not an emergency service. Because demand for SHARP far exceeds available resources, preference is given to applicants who are:

- Currently 75 years of age or older;



- Living alone;
- Frail or mobility impaired; and
- Receiving monthly incomes at or below 125% of priority.

SHARP's income priority is based on 125% of the poverty level.

The goal of SHARP is to make the home safer and more comfortable for the current senior home owner.

How can I apply for SHARP?

Persons interested in minor repair services through SHARP can call the PCA Helpline at 215-765-9040 or 215-765-9041 (TDD), weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The intake worker collects information over the phone. Next, a social worker visits the home and describes the program, assists in completing the application, and verifies that the eligibility criteria are met. He or she can also provide information

about other services that may be needed or requested. The social worker is required to walk through the entire home, listing the consumer's repair needs. After all information is verified and the application approved, an inspector visits the home to identify the type of repairs needed and to prepare a work list that does not exceed the per house dollar limit. For people with physical limitations, an occupational therapist may visit the consumer to recommend adaptations to the home for increased safety and/or accessibility.

After the inspection is completed, materials are delivered to the house, the repairs are scheduled, and a mechanic arrives at the home. After the work is completed, the home is reinspected. If problems related to the work arise through normal usage during the course of one year, SHARP will return to the home and make necessary repairs, consistent with an agreement between PCA and the consumer.

Note: A SHARP staff person always calls the applicant before coming to the house.

SHARP is funded by the City of Philadelphia with Community Development Block Grant funds and the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. It is the policy of the City of Philadelphia to provide services without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, having AIDS or being perceived to have AIDS, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, or age.