

1.

Be sure to have their affairs in order

Start with getting a Durable Power of Attorney and a Medical Power of Attorney.

Definitions can be found here <http://www.hcdecisions.org/definitions.asp> and http://www.aarp.org/family/liferafterloss/articles/financial_power_of_attorney.html.

See an attorney to set these up. If they have a trust, make sure all titled assets such as property, bank accounts, and brokerage accounts are titled to the trust. This is very important if they have property in multiple states. The trust will avoid having to probate properties all over the place.

2.

Medicaid

Also, the titling of the home for Medicaid purposes is important.

There are a few situations to consider and can be viewed here <http://www.heiserlaw.com/ProtectingTheHome.asp>.

You may want to purchase long-term care insurance. This will depend on the amount of assets the elderly person has and what kind of shape they are in. It is

very expensive and should be looked at carefully.

3.

List All Assets and Valuable Papers

Be sure to have a list of assets and liabilities. Know where everything is, all the bank accounts, brokerage accounts, etc. Have a list of the location of all valuable papers, from insurance policies to wills to the durable powers of attorney.