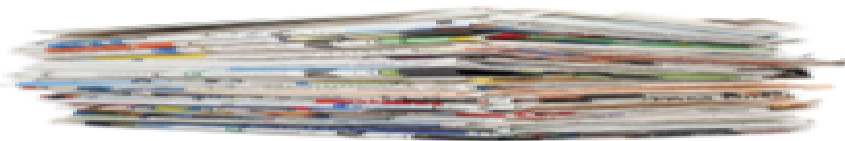


WHY, WHEN AND HOW TO DO A WELFARE CHECK

If you notice a neighbor has pamphlets, newspapers, packages, even grocery deliveries, accumulating outside their door, it's a good idea to consider doing a Welfare Check. Welfare Checks are easy to do.

- **First Knock** on their door loudly and repeatedly. If you get no response,
- **Call them**, if you know their phone number. If you still get no response,
- **Go to the office** and ask if that person is officially listed as being away. They can't tell you where the resident is, but they can say "yes" or "no". If the neighbor is not listed with the office,
- **Tell the office you are going to call in a Welfare Check.**
- **Dial 9-1-1, and tell the dispatcher you are asking for a Welfare Check**, then give them whatever information they ask for about your neighbor that you may know.
- **Wait for the First Responders to show up.** Lead them to the apartment in question, hopefully with a **manager who will let the First Responder in.**
- **Give the First Responder any information they may ask you** about your neighbor or the circumstances.
- **Once they are in** and have asked you whatever questions you might be able to answer, you may leave if you wish.

Calling in a Welfare Check may seem like an invasion of privacy, but as we live in an independent, but aging community, **we need to watch out for each other.** It might be that your neighbor has fallen or is otherwise incapacitated and can't reach their phone. They may not have a friend or family member who checks on them regularly to make sure they are okay. Who knows how long your neighbor might have been in need of help because we were all minding our own business, instead of noticing something wasn't right? If you see such a situation, don't hesitate. Don't think someone else will do something about it. Make that call. **You might be saving someone's life.**



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