

# Wii, Kinect and SimplyHome – Tech-savvy Seniors

ASHEVILLE, N.C., Nov. 16 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – So, what do Microsoft's new Xbox Kinect, Nintendo's Wii and SimplyHome have in common? SimplyHome's assistive technology is bringing its clients to the next level in [independent living](#) and underlying innuendos in Wii and Kinect may also have impacts on helping seniors and those with developmental disabilities to age in place more gracefully and independently.

For instance, a recent health care blogger wrote that since Kinect's camera is able to follow people as they move about the room that scenarios for home physical therapy or medical rehabilitation with expert avatars or live health professionals is not out of the question. And, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) also understands the potential significance here as well; its recent member newsletter gave Kinect front-page coverage.

In addition, Wii has been turning up in independent living and assisted living homes around the country as a way to keep seniors active and while at first look, many may have been reluctant, more and more are embracing technology in many senses of the word.

Enter SimplyHome – a company that offers cost-effective, innovative technological solutions to provide wellness monitoring, caregiver assistance, and in-home medical alert systems for elder care or for individuals with physical or developmental disabilities.

"Our health monitor systems are designed to be less invasive than many others on the market," explains Allen Ray, CEO of SimplyHome. "No call to action is required of the person needing assistance which allows him or her to maintain their dignity and privacy. Technology is no longer the big elephant in the room."

For seniors, SimplyHome provides support to help them [live independently at home](#). So, how does it work? For example, if a senior leaves the stove on, a sensor detects a potential need. An option is available where the first alert may go to the person requiring support. If that is not a preferred choice, then the first alert is sent immediately through text message, phone call or e-mail to that person's loved one. Additionally, there are also backup people built into a "calling tree."

While this assistive technology cannot prevent accidents, choices or behaviors, family and caregivers are notified of actions or inactivity. The systems are unobtrusive, silent and require little or no maintenance.

And, these safety monitoring systems are not just for seniors. They also benefit disabled and developmentally-disabled persons, home health providers, assisted living communities, and long-term care facilities.

"My brother has never been happier," says one satisfied client. "He is living

with greater independence and enjoys being with his roommate and friends.”

In addition to peace of mind, this [assistive technology](#) also provides financial relief. “The MetLife Market Survey of Nursing Home and Assisted Living Costs,” published in October 2010, reported that the national average for the base rate at a nursing home was \$83,585, annually.

So, if a family plans today, they can save tomorrow. For instance, a study of nine consumers living independently with SimplyHome technology and staff support averaged a cost savings of \$42,883.85 per person per year when compared to living at an intermediate care facility.

For more information, visit: [www.simply-home.com](http://www.simply-home.com).

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News issued by: SimplyHome



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Original Story ID: (6474) :: 2010-11-1116-001

Original Keywords: North Carolina, independent living, assistive technology, live independently at home, age in place, health monitor system, wellness monitoring, home health, Simply Home, NC business SimplyHome Asheville North Carolina ASHEVILLE, N.C.

Alternate Headline: Tech-savvy Seniors Benefit from Wii, Kinect and SimplyHome

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