

Home Based Services

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I recently hired a manicurist to go into an institution and provide a manicure and a pedicure for my client. The client had formerly been a perfectly groomed, well put together woman and she has missed the pampering and feel-good feeling of those treatments. Why shouldn't she have access to them regardless of where she's living? There's a manicurist in town whose entire business is going to her clients wherever they live, although I'm sure that many manicurists would do this if a good client asked them to do so.

I have been in touch with a masseuse who has for years given weekly massages to a client recently moved into an institution. The masseuse plans to pack up his table and his lotions, and take them into the institution where he'll provide the same soothing, relaxing service he's always given the client.

I've written before about all of the services that can be provided in one's own home, but it's helpful to review the list occasionally. Often, people erroneously assume that once they become house bound or move into an institution, they must give up all those pleasures that they once enjoyed and that really isn't the case. The reality is that pretty much any service that's available in the community at large can be packed up and taken to wherever you are.

Need a dentist to clean your teeth? In Home Dental Care will go to your home and give you a good cleaning. Need a doctor to go to your home? Eugene Steinberg's medical practice is entirely based in patients' homes. Podiatrist? Certainly that's available in your home. Non medical services such as a haircut? While many hairdressers will go to the homes of long time customers as a favor, there is also a hairdresser whose only shop is portable because she always works in customers' homes.

How about grocery shopping? Easily done with businesses that will do your shopping and deliver your groceries to your home for a fee. What about someone to pay your bills? Certainly. And, having your dry cleaning and laundry picked up, cleaned, and delivered to your home is a cinch.

It's hard to think of a service that isn't available to people wherever they're living, and in these difficult economic times, providers of services are accommodating and eager to please. They are often responsive to requests that might have been considered unusual in earlier times. That doesn't mean that these services come cheaply. Most of the services I've named are not covered by insurances so that you'll be expected to pay out of pocket and their charges will quite likely include the cost of their time and their gasoline so that you'll charged more than you would pay in a store. You'll also often be expected to tip people for their time and extra effort if they are people you would normally tip.