

Home care need drives business venture

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While local agencies mount efforts to identify the needs of seniors and find volunteers and resources to help meet them, the home care business, for seniors and those needing home assistance, appears to be a growth industry.

One entrepreneur has joined a franchise called Home Helpers.

Faith Atkins of Littleton has a degree in medical technology and liked the idea of a business that provided non-medical and personal in-home and companion care for seniors and other individuals needing recuperative and continuing care.

Atkins says she had exposure to health issues early on because her mother was a nurse and her father a pharmacist.

She worked for a time as a lab supervisor before moving to Colorado in 1991 and in administration for insurer Blue Cross/Blue Shield. She wanted to explore new enterprises and last year investigated Home Helpers and got the franchise.

She and her husband, Chad, saw the business as a relatively low-cost investment, she said.

"It's been awesome," Atkins said. "Because it's a career transition, it's been rejuvenating for me after being in corporate business for several years."

Home Helpers is not affiliated with the Arapahoe County Council on Aging, but does have a relationship with the Southwest Coalition on Aging and other groups, Atkins said.

Working from a virtual office, Atkins hires caregivers with a variety of skills - from retired medical professionals to seniors and other interested in providing non-medical home care.

For more information, contact Atkins at fatkins@HomeHelpers.CC or call 720-242-9320 during regular business hours.