

**Fact Sheet**  
**Community Without Walls, Inc.**  
**Princeton, New Jersey**  
[www .princetonol. com/groups/c ww](http://www.princetonol.com/groups/cww)

Mission

"The Mission of the Community is to enhance and support the ability of each member to age well. It is a goal of the Community that its members be knowledgeable enough and be able to make choices that will permit them to 'age in place'. 'Place' initially means each member's current residence, and subsequently other residences as may be appropriate to changing personal situations, including Shared Housing, Assisted Living Facilities and Continuing Care Retirement Communities in the community. To further this goal, the Community shall engage in activities which may include social support, information, education, and advocacy."

CWW was started by four individuals, who after initial discussions among themselves, invited some 80 friends and acquaintances to an organizational meeting in September 1992. Over time we have evolved into a non-profit membership corporation comprised of Houses (Chapters) with 65-100 members each. We believe the circumscribed-size House structure allows closer community building and social support among Houses' members. All the Houses come together periodically as a group of the whole to pursue and act on matters of CWW-wide interest. As of 2007 we now have 450 members, 82% of whom live in Princeton, NJ and 18% of whom live in nearby towns. We have no staff. Our members carry out the functions of the Organization on an unpaid basis.

Operations

We provide a social network, community building activities, and information and education, all of which develop and enhance linkages among our members, facilitating continuing social interaction. Then when needs arise for more focused assistance, such as a ride to a medical appointment or changing an out-of-reach light bulb, members of our Community are prepared to, and more comfortable with, providing and receiving help. When our members become interested in more comprehensive/intensive services than CWW member-helpers can provide, we work with other established organizations in the community to make such services available to our membership on a paid basis, for example in the areas of housing, transportation, and care management.

Finances

Members contribute \$15.00-\$30.00 /yr each (varies by House) to fund out-of-pocket expenses such as newsletters, insurance, website hosting, and State corporation fees. We raise additional modest contributions from members and a few non-member organizations and individuals to support periodic educational conferences open to the public.

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April 2008

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