

# New center for seniors opens in Viera, is more than a clinic

## Innovative, one-stop resource center for seniors, caregivers

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Staff writer

VIERA — Over a period of 45 minutes last week, six seniors were observed doing a slow, drive-by reconnaissance on a new building on Spyglass Hill Road. A few even got out of their cars, walked up and tried the doors of Viera's newest community resource — One Senior Place.

The man behind this fresh, new concept is project developer and CEO Don Kramer. Opening the doors, he chatted to each person and explained that the final few touches were still being added inside the 13,000-square-foot building, which cost more than \$4 million.

"Don't worry, though. We're scheduled to open on Feb. 6 ... Oh yeah, we're excited to be opening, too," he said. He waved as people left, telling him over their shoulders, "We'll be back next week."

Mr. Kramer came up with the initial concept — that seniors and their caregivers should be able to find all the information, advice, care and services they need in one place — more than three years ago.

"Actually, the idea goes even further back than this," Mr. Kramer said. "Fourteen years ago, my mother was diagnosed with Parkinson's. At the time, I wasn't even working in home health care, and I found just

how hard it can be to navigate the elder health care maze."

However, for Brevard County's seniors, and even those living in central and east central Florida, Mr. Kramer said, this is all, finally, about to change with the addition of One Senior Place, a one-story building set in the heart of Viera's compact medical district.

"We will be offering access to a wide range of care, services and products — just for seniors," spokeswoman Kara Anderson said. "With the convenience of Interstate 95 just down the road, we hope people from all over Brevard County and the neighboring counties will find the drive over worthwhile once they see what we have to offer."

Although some office space has yet to be filled, Mr. Kramer said, the center would be home to a wide range of quality providers of care, services and products for seniors. Each company is its own independent business with an established reputation for integrity and service.

"Current resident businesses include VITAS Innovative Hospice, Personal Hearing Solutions, Senior Partner Care Services and Taxmasters of Brevard," he said. "Seniors can also avail themselves of the services of resident attorney Frese Hansen, who specializes in senior issues. Everyone involved is a respected member of the central Florida business community, intensely focused on meeting the special needs of seniors."

Ms. Anderson added that each business or individual has pledged to conduct business in a manner consistent with the

center's code of ethics.

"Collectively, the members of our provider family have a wealth of knowledge and decades of experience that add enormous value to the One Senior Place customer experience," she said.

Apart from the availability of the businesses, the center will feature a senior resource library with computers and Internet access. A trained elder care manager will also be on-site to answer questions.

"Every senior who's interested is more than welcome to come by and take a look around," Mr. Kramer said. "Initial consultations are always free. When people are ready, we hope they will appreciate the one-stop shopping convenience provided by our resident businesses. Eventually, we will grow to include a physical therapist, a durable medical equipment provider and even a showroom, which will highlight up to eight local assisted-living facilities."

Seniors and nonprofit organizations can also meet in the conference room and cafeteria. Mr. Kramer said a formation meeting for one active senior group is scheduled to take place later this month.

"As far as I'm aware, One Senior Place is a one-of-a-kind facility, not just in Brevard, but anywhere in the country," Mr. Kramer said. "While we will naturally focus on many care-related issues, we also want to be a fun-related place, a place where seniors can come and relax with friends and do as much — or as little — as they want."

For more information, call (321) 751-6771, or visit [www.oneseniorplace.com](http://www.oneseniorplace.com)