Most people want to stay in their own homes and communities as they age. Aging in place has many benefits — staying connected with family, friends and neighbors, and near familiar shops, your place of worship and your doctors.

Unfortunately, many houses weren’t built to support the mobility problems, and physical and mental challenges that can accompany aging.

It’s possible to make changes to your home that make it more “age friendly.”

Making needed home repairs can also help you avoid costly code violations.

The Mid-America Regional Council’s Department of Aging and Adult Services offers a Home Modification and Repair program for adults, ages 60+ in Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri.

Call 816-421-4980 to learn more

Call 816-421-4980 www.marc.org/aging

Thanks to the National Association for Area Agencies on Aging’s “Modifying Your Home for Healthy Aging” publication.
To view that report, visit www.n4a.org/Files/Home-Modification-brochure-508.pdf

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In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, no otherwise eligible person will be denied services due to sex, race, nationality, veteran’s status, religion, age or handicapping condition.
Home Modifications
Modifying your home can make it better suited to your changing needs as you get older. Modifications range from simple things, such as clearing clutter, improving lighting or removing rugs to help prevent falls, to more complex changes, such as installing a stair lift or renovating a bathroom.

Repairs
Some houses may need minor repairs before they can be modified. For example, a leaky pipe will need to be fixed before a bathtub or shower can be made accessible.

Examples of home modifications*
- Add grab bars in bathroom.
- Install handheld shower heads.
- Remove or secure rugs.
- Add nonskid strips to stairs.
- Install handrails for staircases.
- Install nonskid flooring.
- Improve lighting.
- Build ramps or no-step entries.
- Widen doorways or halls.
- Install adjustable kitchen countertops.

Examples of home repairs*
- Restore heating/cooling.
- Fix dangerous electrical problems.
- Repair faulty plumbing.
- Install new water heater.
- Repair rotted flooring.
- Fix water damage from flooding.
- Update windows.

* If your needed home modification or repair isn’t listed above, discuss your needs with MARC to determine if your project is eligible.

Who is eligible for services and how to apply:
If you are a resident aged 60+ in Clay, Cass, Jackson, Platte or Ray counties, and are interested in home repair or modification services, follow these simple steps:

1. **Call 816-421-4980.** A MARC representative will talk with you to see if you are eligible for services.
2. If you’re eligible, a MARC-approved, nonprofit home remodeling company will be assigned to work with you to:
   - Assess your modification and/or repair needs.
   - Develop a plan.
   - Schedule and perform modifications and/or repairs based on your assessment.
3. The home remodeling company will bill MARC for services. Projects will be limited in scope and cost.

Renters
On a case-by-case basis, this program is available for those who rent their homes. Call 816-421-4980, and MARC will talk with you and your landlord to see if modifications and/or repairs are possible.