

## Exploring Alternate Models of Home Support February 2022

### Current Models

<i>Type of Home Support</i>	<i>Supervised Living</i>	<i>Shared Living</i>	<i>Group Living</i>	<i>Staffed Living</i>
<b>Description</b>	Regularly scheduled or intermittent home supports provided to 1 or 2 people who live in their own home. The person usually rents or owns the home or apartment	Individualized home supports for 1 or 2 people within the home of a contracted home provider. The home must be the primary residence of the home provider	Home supports for 3 to 6 people. 24-hour support is provided every day by agency staff. The home is usually owned or rented by the provider agency	Home supports for 1 or 2 people. 24-hour support is provided every day by agency staff. The home is usually owned or rented by the provider agency
<b>Number of People</b>	270	1,368 (1,205 homes)	84 (19 homes)	74 (59 homes)
<b>Percent of People</b>	15%	76%	5%	4%
<b>Average Per Person Cost for Home Support</b>	\$21,941	\$38,922	\$106,771	\$139,489
<b>Unique Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Flexible hourly supports to meet the person's needs in their own home or apt.</li> <li>- Focus on learning skills and independence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tax-free stipend + room and board paid to home provider</li> <li>- Some homes have 2 people in services living there</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Homes must be licensed</li> <li>- New group homes can only have up to 4 people</li> <li>- Most group homes are considered a state-wide resource</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Homes are not licensed</li> <li>- Staffed full-time</li> </ul>
<b>Number of Providers</b>	14 agencies	15 agencies	6 Agencies	11 Agencies

Note: Data above is from FY21 DDS Annual Report. All information compiled by DDSD, February 2022.

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<b><i>Benefits</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Person has more autonomy and independence</li> <li>- Section 8 housing vouchers provide rental assistance</li> <li>- May include use of electronic remote support to reduce need for on-site staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stipend allows for lower cost option than group or staffed living</li> <li>- Home provider generally available 24 hours a day to cover support when other services are not available</li> <li>- Home is tied to Home Provider, not agency</li> <li>- Flexibility can accommodate many types of arrangements</li> <li>- Some home providers move into home of individual and pay rent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If direct support workers leave, the person does not need to move</li> <li>- Person may enjoy company of others living in the home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If direct support workers leave, the person does not need to move</li> <li>- Homes do not need to be licensed</li> </ul>

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<b>Challenges</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited Section 8 vouchers/lack of alternative ways to subsidize rent or move in/start-up costs for apartment living</li> <li>- Can be lonely and isolating for people living alone</li> <li>- Concerns about risk, liability, and personal and community safety</li> <li>- Prohibitive costs (rent; down payment; security deposit; setting up phone, electricity, water)</li> <li>- If the person needs more than about 20 hours a week of home support, shared living becomes the less expensive option</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over-dependence on model due to it being a less costly option</li> <li>- “Traditional” family model does not meet needs of all people</li> <li>- Hard to find alternatives once people need less than full time support</li> <li>- When the contract between the home provider and the agency ends, the person needs to move out</li> <li>- Transitions between homes can be difficult</li> <li>- Home provider usually responsible for finding and hiring respite</li> <li>- Ensuring consistency of pre-service training and oversight for home providers</li> <li>- Homes often not located near public transportation, person must rely on home provider or others for transportation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Person may not enjoy the company of others living in the home</li> <li>- Homes need to be licensed</li> <li>- Limited number of Group Living options, not available at all agencies, openings are rare</li> <li>- Many of the homes are only available to a specific population</li> <li>- Sometimes compromises of autonomy are made to meet the needs of the household</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expensive option due to 24-hour staff for just 1 – 2 people</li> </ul>

## **Additional Challenges to Home Support Options**

- HCBS funding cannot cover the cost of housing. A person's SSI or other income is used to cover room and board costs in all settings.
- Not enough affordable and accessible housing.
- Lack of public transportation in rural areas and limited bus routes in urban areas.
- Difficulty setting up and sustaining home ownership.
- High turnover of Service Coordinators effect quality and security of home support arrangements.
- Lack of respite.
- Current workforce shortages.

## **Creative Home Support Options Currently Used**

- Use of technology, such as smart phone/tablets, pagers, electronic monitoring, to support independence and safety.
- Transitional living model where two youth live with home provider for a few years while learning independent living skills then transition into supported apartment including use of remote supports.
- Apartment where one or two people live for 2-3 years while learning skills to live independently while working or going to college; eventual transition to independent living.
- Supportive housemate model where one paid supportive housemate has a shared living contract with taxable stipend and the other two housemates are supported to learn independent living skills; all three housemates pay rent and share in cost of the apartment. The paid housemate receives respite, but there are no other paid supports as the other two housemates access work and community on their own.
- One or two people have rotating Shared Living providers.
- Home that has separate bedrooms and communal living for housemates while learning independent living skills for 18 months. The local housing authority provides a Section 8 voucher to each housemate when they are ready to move into their own apartment.

- Contract with Department for Children and Families to support two youth with intensive supports for 1-2 years to prevent an out-of-state placement with the intent to transition them back into their community.
- Provider agencies work with local housing authorities to access low-income apartments.
- An apartment complex that offers small one person apartments that have access directly from the outside, as well as internally to a central common area where staff is available to provide support in a variety of independent living skills.
- “Home Alone” guidance to increase independence for people living in settings with 24/7 support while reducing the need for direct supports.
- Intentional, time-limited, Shared Living arrangement with the focus on teaching a person how to live more independently and to be safe when home alone.
- Shared Living where a separate living space, such as a “mother-in-law” apartment or separate home on the property, is used as a person’s home. Use of tiny home as person’s living space on home providers property.
- “Home Share” model where people who need a small amount of help to live independently are matched with individuals who have a home and can provide minimal support and companionship.
- Shared Living home that is not tax-exempt where person needs less than 24/7 support and the home provider is providing hourly supports to the person in the home and community, as needed (similar to “Home Share”).
- Creative use of support workers who are on-call professional roommates, collage age student mentors, and overnight contracted workers.
- Home providers trained to support older people with dementia and other significant medical needs to keep them out of nursing facility level of care.
- Support people to live close to one another, in the same neighborhood, with part-time and on-call support; incorporate support from neighbors.
- Friends and relatives (as allowed for paid support) provide paid and unpaid support to a person who lives in their own home or apartment.

- Support options that support both the needs of a person and the needs of their aging parent(s).
- Co-housing model with mix of people in services and housemates who are not in services.
- Section 8 vouchers which allow live-in or hourly in-home supports from an attendant.
- Families create deeds and trusts that allow for transferring their home to their adult child.

## **Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living – State and Federal Parameters**

- **State System of Care Plan for Developmental Disabilities Services**
  - Shared living homes must comply with the Housing Safety and Accessibility Review Process
  - DDS assists DA/SSAs in filling vacancies in group homes/residential settings that are considered statewide resources.
  - DDS approve increases in funding for group homes/residential settings that are considered statewide resources.
  - Home and Community-Based Services funding cannot be used to increase the availability of residential settings that provide supports to more than four adults (age 18 and over). Any exceptions to this limitation must be approved by DDS.
- **Regulations Implementing the Developmental Disabilities Act**
  - Home supports shall comply with HCBS rules which emphasize choice, control, privacy, tenancy rights, autonomy, independence, and inclusion in the community.
- **Residential Care Home Licensing Regulations**
  - DAIL's Division of Licensing and Protection is responsible for the licensing of facilities that provide residential care for adults. Licensure rules require that facilities providing care to more than two unrelated adults must be licensed.

- **CMS Home and Community-Based Services Setting Rules**
  - The Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services settings rule requires HCBS settings to have qualities that promote community integration based on an individual's needs as indicated in the person-centered service plan.
  
- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)**
  - Home and Community-Based services may not pay for room and board costs, rent or utility subsidies.