

## Find out More

If you think Home Sharing might be the right support for you or your family member - talk to your Social Worker or allied health professional about making an application or contact us

If you would like to become a Home Sharing Host contact us or visit our website for more information

## Contact Us

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# Home Sharing Information



‘Share A Break’  
& ‘Shared Living’

# What is Home Sharing?

Home Sharing is a model of community respite & support for adults and children with a moderate to severe intellectual disability across Counties Longford, Westmeath, Laois & Offaly.

We match people up with Host families in their area with the aim of:

- Developing friendships & relationships,
- Having a place to go for a break in another family environment,
- Making connections or accessing supports and services in the community,
- Promoting choice & self-direction,
- Developing future support networks.

Home Sharing does not provide or replace home care, personal care, home tutoring, therapy-led, professional health & social care services.

Success & continued support is dependent on matching applicants with a suitable and available Host.

## Types of Home Sharing:

**‘Share A Break’** - A unique, individualised support providing short daybreaks, overnights, weekends, & holidays with a Host family.

**‘Shared Living’** - Full time living arrangements with a Host Family.

## How it Works:

Applicants are matched with Hosts based on geography; personal interests, lifestyle; wishes, skills & experience.

We recognise that people’s needs and wishes change all the time so each Home Sharing Placement is unique.

Each placement is an individual, flexible agreement based on what the person wants & what the Host can provide.

All Home Sharing placements are supported & reviewed by a Social Worker.

## Home Sharing Hosts

Home Sharing Hosts are regular members of the community & families that volunteer to welcome a person or a child with an intellectual disability into their home, family & community life.

Hosts are assessed for suitability by a social worker & approved by a Panel.

Hosts do not need to have specific qualifications or experience in the health and social care field, although this can be an advantage.

We provide training & support for Hosts and they receive a tax-free allowance to cover expenses.