



Shared Living

An overview

What is Shared Living?

The term "Shared Living" highlights the vision of fostering a true sense of belonging, where individuals become valued members of a household, family, and community. Through a collaborative effort involving the individual receiving services, their interdisciplinary team, and SRC's Shared Living Team, individuals are carefully matched with a Shared Living Provider through a series of assessments and home visits. Once welcomed into the provider's home, they actively participate in family activities and are encouraged to engage in community interactions alongside their provider and other family members.



Who qualifies?

Shared Living is for any individual with intellectual disabilities or autism who prefers to live in a family-type home, who is eligible for MaineCare services under the Section 21 and Section 29 Home and Community-Based Waivers, and who has determined this to be an appropriate living option through their person-centered planning process.



Shared Living Providers

A Shared Living Provider (SLP) is a Direct Support Professional (DSP) who has a contract with an Administrative Oversight Agency to deliver Shared Living services to an individual in the Provider's home.

A Shared Living Provider shares their home with an individual authorized to receive Shared Living services. SRC, as the Oversight Agency supports the Provider in fulfilling the requirements and obligations agreed upon by DHHS, Administrative Oversight Agency, and the individual's Planning Team.



Rights of Individuals Receiving Services



Treat individuals with dignity and respect

Individuals must be treated with dignity, choice, and respect at all times.



Ensure access to social activities

Individuals must have access to social activities, religious practices, and opportunities for community engagement.



Provide access to medical care

Individuals must have access to medical care.

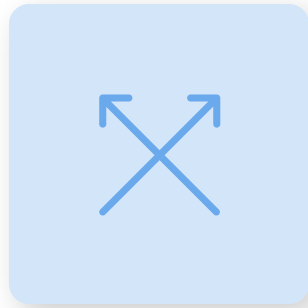


Minimize restrictions on rights

Any restrictions on rights must be necessary to ensure safety and aligned with approved behavior plans.

Individuals receiving services have fundamental rights that must be protected through policies, procedures, and staff training.

Home and Community-Based Services



Choice

Individuals choose preferred HCBS settings for community engagement and employment



Control

Individuals have control over schedule, activities, and access to resources



Access

Individuals have access to integrate into the broader community

HCBS settings must empower individuals with choice, control, and community access.

Shared Living Provider Roles



Care and support

Provide care, meals, transportation, and help with medical needs as per the individual's plan



Skill development

Encourage independent living skills and facilitate community activities



Documentation

Maintain records of activities, progress, and medication logs per regulations



Teamwork

Communicate with the support team including case manager and guardian

Shared living providers offer round-the-clock support to meet individual needs and empower growth in a home setting.

Shared Living Provider Roles



Maintain cleanliness

Keep the living environment tidy by regular cleaning and organizing



Ensure safety

Take measures to minimize hazards and risks to wellbeing



Provide care & support

Be available to assist the individual as needed, following their care plan



Monitor health

Keep track of physical health, mental health, and nutritional needs

Be a responsible, attentive, and compassionate caregiver.

Things to consider before becoming a Shared Living Provider:

- **HCBS Requirements**

- Home modifications

- Privacy

- Visitors and Guests

- Meal Planning and Food Storage

- Transportation

- **Compliance**

- Background checks for all family members over the age of 18

- Driving record checks for anyone transporting

- Insurance requirements

- Home Visits and Inspections

- Pet vaccines

Think about the impact of your home and lifestyle upon a person who would live with you. You will not only be a service provider to the individual, you will be a housemate.

It's important to get to know the person and their lifestyle to ensure that you will be compatible living with them.

Oversight Agency Responsibilities



Recruitment and training

The agency recruits, vets, and provides formal training to new providers.



Home inspections

The agency conducts regular home inspections to ensure health, safety, and HCBC compliance.



Person-centered plans

The agency works with the case manager to implement each individual's person-centered plan.



Documentation and auditing

The agency maintains documentation and enters reportable events into a database.

The oversight agency plays a critical role in provider management, safety oversight, care coordination, and quality assurance.