

# IF YOUR HEART IS BIG ENOUGH, YOUR HOME WILL BE, TOO.

### What is Shared Living?

Bethesda's Shared Living program engages people who are willing to open their homes and hearts, partners with families who want to provide quality care for their loved one and carefully matches individuals with developmental disabilities with the best home for their needs. Whether your loved one needs a caring place to live, or you want to share your home, Bethesda's Shared Living program may be for you.

### What is a Host Home?

In Host Homes, an individual or family opens their home and heart to a person with developmental disabilities to care for him/her, and to earn a professional wage. Through Host Homes, Bethesda helps people with developmental disabilities find a supportive, family-like setting where they can gain independence and form strong, lasting friendships. Our host homes allow people to extend their hearts and families, and complete their calling to help others.

### What is a Family Caregiver Home?

In a Family Caregiver Home, a member of the family provides quality, 24-hour care for another family member with developmental disabilities. This support happens in their own home, and the caregiver earns a professional wage. Bethesda serves as a resource and ally to people with developmental disabilities who wish to remain at home with their families and receive day-to-day support from a parent, sibling or relative in a familiar setting.

### How can Bethesda help me open my home to a person with developmental disabilities?

Thanks to our training, each host home provider is prepared and ready to welcome someone into their home and family. In addition, Bethesda performs extensive background checks and home evaluations to ensure the safety and well-being of the people providers may support. Ongoing guidance from Bethesda on the recreational, work and personal care goals of the person they support also helps providers on their journey.



### **How can Bethesda help me care for a family member with developmental disabilities in my home?**

We work closely with each family to ensure they have the knowledge, skills and resources necessary to support to their loved one at home. Bethesda also offers additional services to families, including in-home or out-of-home support from a Bethesda direct support professional, day programs, faith supports and employment programs.

### **How can Bethesda help me match my loved one to the best home for their needs?**

If you are seeking placement for an adult child or other adult family member, you may be interested in one of our host homes or family caregiver homes. Bethesda case managers work with you every step of the way to ensure you find the right home.

### **Where does Bethesda offer host homes and/or family caregiver homes?**

Bethesda is expanding its Shared Living network. Currently we support Host Homes and Family Caregiver Homes in:

- Lake Forest, CA
- Littleton, CO
- Shawnee Mission, KS
- Porterville, CA
- Fort Wayne, IN
- Cypress, TX
- Redding, CA
- Valparaiso, IN
- And more!
- Fresno, CA
- Greenfield, IN

### **How do host home providers and/or family caregivers get started working with Bethesda?**

Qualified providers share Bethesda's high standards and appreciate our mission to enhance the lives of people with developmental disabilities through services that share the good news of Jesus Christ. To be licensed, our providers must meet key criteria, including a background check and insurance minimums, as well as have email access. We work with prospective providers to help them through the application process.

### **How much are host home providers and/or family caregivers paid for supporting residents with developmental disabilities?**

Monthly compensation can range from about \$1,700 to about \$4,000, depending on an individual's needs and the services provided.

### **What types of care and support are needed for adults with developmental disabilities?**

As a caregiver, you are asked to:

- Provide daily care for a person with developmental disabilities, including assisting with medications, personal care, meals, medical appointments, shopping, transportation and more, just like you would any other member of your immediate family.
- Provide companionship.
- Facilitate participation in social/community activities.
- Support routine medical care. Complex health needs are managed with nursing support.



### Why would people with developmental disabilities want to live in a Bethesda Shared Living home?

- Their current home no longer meets their needs or preferences
- Homes they share with parents or other family members are no longer safe or feasible
- They simply choose to make a change
- They are moving from another host home or group home because change is needed or wanted

### What are intellectual and developmental disabilities?

According to the American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, “Developmental Disabilities” is an umbrella term that includes intellectual disability but also includes other disabilities that are apparent during childhood.

Developmental disabilities are severe chronic disabilities that can be cognitive or physical or both. The disabilities appear before the age of 22 and are likely to be lifelong. Some developmental disabilities are largely physical issues, such as cerebral palsy or epilepsy. Some individuals may have a condition that includes a physical and intellectual disability, for example Down syndrome or fetal alcohol syndrome.

Intellectual disability encompasses the “cognitive” part of this definition, that is, a disability that is broadly related to thought processes. Because intellectual and other developmental disabilities often co-occur, intellectual disability professionals often work with people who have both types of disabilities.

An intellectual disability is a disability characterized by significant limitations in both intellectual functioning and in adaptive behavior, which covers many everyday social and practical skills. This disability originates before the age of 18.

### Interested in learning more about becoming a Shared Living provider?

**Go to [SharedHomeLiving.org/become-a-provider/](https://SharedHomeLiving.org/become-a-provider/)**

### Interested in finding a home for a loved one?

**Visit [SharedHomeLiving.org/match-with-a-home/](https://SharedHomeLiving.org/match-with-a-home/)**

