

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING



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*SHARE: Shared Housing and Resource Exchange*

*October 24, 2019*



**SHARE**  
SHARED HOUSING AND  
RESOURCE EXCHANGE

## Background

- Funded by a three-year grant
- Operating in Pike, Wayne, and Monroe Counties
- Cost-effective housing model
- Two Housing Counselors administer the program

# SHARE Design

- Shared Housing Definition
  - Mutual Benefit
  - Control
  - Choice
  - Exchange of services
- Host – Individual wishing to share their home
- Sharer – Individual moving into the home
- Individualized Home Sharing Agreement



# Pilot Program Guidelines

- Host homes must be located in Pike, Wayne, or Monroe Counties
- All applicants must be over age 18; one individual must be over age 60
- The Sharer must have their own bedroom
- The Sharer can only be charged 30% of their gross income, including utilities
- The individualized Home Sharing Agreement can be for rent, resources, or a combination
- Not emergency housing
- Individuals not appropriate for the program will be referred to a community resource for assistance



# Process

- Intake
- Application
- Background and reference checks
- Home Inspection
- SHARE counselor identifies a match
- Introductions
- Trial period
- Home Sharing Agreement
- Check-In, Monitoring and Conflict Resolution
- Termination of Contract



# Since December 2017:

Total number of applications to date: **338**

- 130 – Hosts
- 208 – Home Seekers

Total Number of matches: **32**

- Females (65%)
- Age 60 or older (68%)
- 4 Veterans
- 1 IDD

Current Active Matches: **16**

Longest Match: **22 months**



# Details

- Average rent amount is \$250-\$450 as compared to a one bedroom apartment of approximately \$912 (HUD Fair Market Rent)
- Resource exchange requests:
  - Pet Care
  - Transportation
  - Lawn Care
  - Snow Removal
  - Cooking



# Benefits

- Collaboration with the Area Agencies on Aging and community health and social service agencies
- Assists seniors to maintain and retain their homes
- Utilizes existing housing stock
- Companionship
- Services
- Financial
- Security



# Testimonials

## Why did you decide to participate in the program?:

- *“It was a safe & affordable solution to avoid living in poverty”*
- *“High apt. prices vs. income”*
- *“Nice to have someone younger in the house”*
- *“I lost my house when my wife died”*
- *“It allowed us to have someone check in on my mother daily, do some light errands, and be that extra set of eyes that we really needed as my mother returned from the hospital”*



# Testimonials

## What are some of the benefits you found from Home Sharing?

- *“I can be an independent member of the household & help out”*
- *“Meeting good people”*
- *“Help with payments”*
- *“Sharer helps cook”*
- *“Companionship”*
- *“Taking me to my doctors’ appointments”*
- *“Have become a family member”*



# Testimonials

## Other Comments:

- *“Share many times together, talking and just being friends”*
- *“It’s an excellent program and gives an alternative to those of us who need it. We have our dignity back and a corresponding sense of hope?”*
- *“Good for the right person, helps fight high costs in Monroe county”*
- *“Bless you for providing this resource for people who have limitations but want to remain as independent as possible. I cannot thank you enough”*





## Future

- Expansion
- Sustainability
- Replicability

# SHARE

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## Contact Information:

**Bureau of Aging Services**  
**Division of Housing and Community Services**

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