HOMESHARE
Program
Housing Bureau for Seniors of the University of Michigan Health System
HOMESHARE Program

The goal of the HomeShare program is to enable senior homeowners (age 55+) to remain stable in their housing of choice by providing a safe, screened, and compatible housemate who can provide companionship, economic and chore assistance to the homeowner.
A Brief History of Share Housing

- US movement began in the 1970s
- Reached apex in the 1980’s
- Loss of funding closed several programs
- Renewed interest and efforts
Types of Shared Housing

There are 2 types of shared housing situations arranged by our program:

• Peer to Peer
• Intergenerational
Senior Home Provider Benefits

**Benefits**

- Companionship
- Sense of Security and Well-Being
- Financial Assistance
- Civic Engagement
- Connection to the Community
- Chore Assistance
  - No Personal Care
Home Seeker Benefits

Benefits

• Companionship
• Connection to the Community
• Civic Engagement
• Safe, Comfortable, Home Environment
• Affordable Housing
Community benefits

- Use of Available Housing Stock
- Provides Affordable Living
- Economic Security for Homeowners
- Maintained Yards and Homes
- Created Communities
HomeShare Process

1. Application Phase

2. Introduction Phase

3. Contracting and Ongoing Support
1. Application Phase

- 5 Page Application
- Character Reference Check
- Criminal Background Check
- Personal Interview / Home Visit
2. Introduction Phase

- Review Approved Participants
- Explore Areas of Compatibility
- Follow Up Post Introduction
- Facilitate In-Person Introduction
- Complete Initial Phone Referral
3. Contracting & Ongoing Support

- Mediation/ Negotiation Support
- Match Dissolution Support
- Draft Month to Month Contract

3. Contracting and Ongoing Support
## HomeShare service Exchange

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours of Chore Assistance per week</th>
<th>$ off Rent</th>
<th>Contribution Guideline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (4/ Month)</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (8/ Month)</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (12 Month)</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 (16/ Month)</td>
<td>$160</td>
<td>$240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (20/ Month)</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (24/ Month)</td>
<td>$240</td>
<td>$160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 (28/ Month)</td>
<td>$280</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 (32/ Month)</td>
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<td>$80</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 (36/ Month)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (40/ Month)</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Program Requirements

General
- Financial Stability
- Physical Stability
- Emotional/Mental Health Stability
- Ability to be Flexible
- Ability to Communicate

Home Requirements
- Qualifying Bedrooms
- 2 Points of Egress
- Access to Kitchen
- Access to Private or Shared Bathroom
HomeShare – Fast Facts

• We have been in operation for over 30 years
• We receive about 300 inquires every year and about 125 new applications
• At any time we have about 50 ongoing matches in place housing over 100 people
• Each year we make roughly 50 new matches
• Every month the program brings around $17,500 into the pockets of local seniors through the form of a modest rent
• About 400 hours of chore assistance is provided each month to local seniors at an estimated savings of over $4000 per month
  • Promotes Independence and Aging in Place
• Matches last on average 16 months, but our Longest Match – over 14 years in length
• Mutually beneficial program that just makes sense, and also makes dollars and cents
Contact Information

Ryan Cowmeadow, LMSW
HomeShare Program Coordinator
Phone: 734-998-9345
Email: ryancowm@umich.edu
www.med.umich.edu/seniors
Aging In Place
Adaptations

Steve Bredernitz
Bredernitz Professional Services
Aging In Place Goals

- Enhance the quality of life by focusing on home comfort and safety.

- Ensure that people of all ages who plan to stay in their homes as they age make the necessary modifications now to ensure their ability to age in place.
AARP Statistics

- AARP Survey - More than four in five Americans 45 years of age and older say they would like to remain in their homes for as long as possible.

- Only one in six home owners has made home modifications that would allow them to be safe and comfortable in their home as they age.
How to Get Started?

Step 1.

Begin thinking about what YOU can do in your current home to allow you to safely remain in that home as long as you choose.
What Do I Like To Do?

Step 2.
Determine what is important to YOU

Activities such as:

• Cooking
• Yard work
• Woodworking
• Using computer
• Making crafts
Who Should I Talk To?

Step 3.

Identify consultants needed:

- Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS)
- Occupational Therapist (OT)
- Remodeler / Builder
- Architect
- Landscape Architect
Evaluation of the Home

Some of the Basic Questions to Start:

- Has the home been properly maintained?
- Can a ramp be installed at the main door?
- Does the home requiring upgrading?
- What types of flooring are in the home?
- Is the bathroom safe from slip & falls?
- Is lighting adequate in the home?
- Can a wheelchair or walker be used in the home?
Lever Handles

Lever Handles for Doors and Faucets.
Typical Entrance - After
Typical Entrance - Before
Ramp Into the Home
Modified Bathroom
No-Step Shower
Comfort Height Toilet
Grab Bars, Hand Shower, Inserts, Fold-Down Seat
Typical Bathroom
Walk-In Shower - Grab Bars, Hand Shower, Seat
Kitchen Microwave Location

Over the Stove or on the Countertop?
Laundry

Basement or Main Floor Laundry? What type of Washers / Dryers?
Emergency Communication

Must be Able to Reach Help in Case of Emergency.
Lots of Light

Adequate lighting is needed:

• Hallways
• Stairways
• Entrances
• Living areas
• Bedrooms
• Bathrooms
Conclusion

• Decide what you like to do and what needs to be done to the home so you can stay in your home.

• Work with qualified people to make the necessary changes to your home so you can stay there.

• Enjoy life.