

July 2022

**Housing Information For People with
Developmental Disabilities**

Topics

1. Vermont System of Care
2. Residential Services
3. Money for housing
4. Vermont Rules for Housing
5. Federal or HCBS Rules for Housing

Developmental Services System of Care Plan

The state must make a plan for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The plan talks about:

- what services are like
- what services are available
- who gets services
- and when people get services

System of Care Plan

- The plan is updated every 3 years, but it can be updated every year if needed.
- The last plan was made in October 2017.
- Right now, the state is working on updating the plan. The new plan will be good from 2022 to 2025.

Residential Services

Shared Living Provider

- A Shared Living Provider is also called a “SLP”.
- A person with a disability lives in the SLP’s home.
- The SLP support the person to live their life.
- 1,368 served in 1,205 SLP homes in 2021

Residential Services

Staffed Living

- A person with a disability lives in their own home.
- Staff are there all the time. It is called 24 hour supports.
- Support is provided by many different staff people.
- 74 people were served in 59 Staffed Living homes in 2021

Residential Services

Supervised Living

- A person with a disability lives in their own home.
- A staff person comes to your home to support you
- The staff are there when you need them. They might come every day or once a week.
- 270 people were served in 2021 with this support.

Residential Services

Group Homes

- an agency owns or rents the home
- 3 to 6 people with disabilities live together
- there are staff at the home all the time
- 84 people were served in 19 group homes in 2021

Residential Services

- Many people with disabilities live with their family.
- 328 individuals received home supports in their family home in 2021.
- There are many different ways support is provided.
- There is room for a lot of creativity.

Money for housing

- The Federal government gave Vermont extra money to provide better services.
- Vermont can use some of this money to improve residential services
- People with disabilities need more housing options.
- The state wants to learn from people. What are your challenges with housing?
- The State is finding out what is working in other places. If people like these ideas, then we could try them in Vermont.

State Rules for Housing

Group living requires the home to be reviewed and approved (“licensed”) by the Division of Licensing and Protection

- Group Homes can support between 3 and 6 people
- New group homes cannot have more than 4 adults living together, unless approved by the DDSD

State Rules for Housing

- Staffed living cannot support more than 2 people in the same home
 - The staffed living model provides around the clock support through agency staff.
- Shared Living supports 1 or 2 people in the same home
 - Shared living is when the individual lives with a provider, often in the provider's home.

HCBS Settings Rule

- In March 2014 the federal government put out new rules for getting services.
- They are called Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule.
- March 2023 is the deadline for states to follow the rules
- The part of the federal government in charge of the rules is called CMS or Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services

HCBS Settings Rule

- The State must follow the federal rules. Vermont must follow the HCBS Settings Rule.
- We must make sure that where people live meet the HCBS Settings rule.
- Settings are where people live.
- Individuals must have a choice in settings options.

HCBS Settings Rule

The rule says, these settings must:

- Be part of or allow access to the community;
- Provide privacy, dignity, and respect,
- Be free from bullying and restraint;
- Increase self-determination; and
- Help the individual to make choice regarding services and who provides them

HCBS Settings Rule

The rule says, people must have:

- Access to Food at Any Time
- Visitors At Any Time
- Right to Control Your Daily Schedule
- Physical Accessibility
- Tenant rights
- Extra privacy rights