

Frequently asked Questions

Why are breaks important for people with a disability and their families?

People with disabilities going on a break get the opportunity to make new friends, widen their social circle, enjoy new experiences and get to have a break away from family in a different environment. In addition, having a break from caregiving can be of huge benefit to the care givers and their families.

Who can apply to become a Host Carer?

Host Carers come from a wide variety of backgrounds and can be working, retired, with or without children, single or with a partner. Host Carers are fully vetted, assessed, trained and are carefully matched with each child or adult looking to avail of a short break.

What if I don't have any experience working with people with a disability?

It is not a requirement to have experience working with people with disabilities. Personal qualities such as being warm and caring, having time and commitment, being reliable and motivated to care are what is required.

How are Host Carers assessed?

Once we have received your application, a member of the HomeShare team will meet with you to discuss the process. A Social Worker will visit the applicant's home to get to know you and your family. A report will be compiled and shared with you. It will be then forwarded to the Approvals Panel.

What is the Vetting Process?

All host families require Garda clearance, TUSLA clearance, medical clearance and references. The Home Sharing Coordinator will guide you through this process.

Do I have to do training?

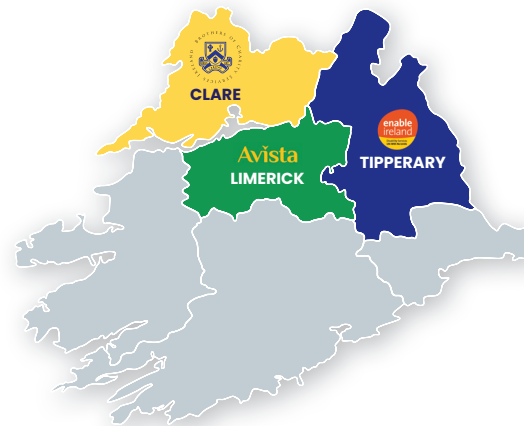
You will be expected to attend training on areas such as communication and safeguarding vulnerable persons.

Is there a payment for being a Host Carer?

Host carers are paid a tax free allowance per break.

What support will I receive doing this?

Ongoing Support and supervision will be provided to all Host Carers during the assessment, training process and throughout placements.



Email: info@homeshare.ie or call 061 123456
Supported by the HSE.



Become a Host Carer

and make a difference



HomeShare
Short Breaks

Respite for people with disabilities.

What is Home Sharing

Home Sharing is a community based service that provides both short breaks (respite) and full-time (shared living) placements to children and adults with a disability. These breaks take place in the Host Carer's home. The scheme is voluntary; however Host Carers are paid an allowance which is tax free.

“We’ve had Grace coming to us since she was eighteen months old, and here we are nine and a half years later. Nobody comes and drops a child on your lap. The organisation will try to match you with a child that suits your circumstances and your experience. There’s nothing really that my husband John or I have to do that any person couldn’t do with support of the HomeShare service.”

Kay and John Liston

HomeShare Carers, Co. Limerick

What is a Host Carer?

A Host Carer is an individual that has been recruited, assessed, trained and vetted by a HomeShare provider in the Mid-West region. This person is approved to have the personal qualities and skills to care for a person with an disability on a short-term or long-term basis.



Different types of Home Sharing:

Home Sharing as a model of support is subdivided into three categories;

1. Short Breaks Host

Hosts in the community offer a short break to an adult or child, in the host's home. Arrangements are based on the host's availability and other caring commitments. As this is not generally the host's primary occupation, an allowance is paid per break provided. Short Break Hosts can host two children/adults separately, per month.

2. Contract Host

Contract Hosts are assessed and approved as contract carers and commit to a number of overnight breaks per month. Contract Hosts are contracted for a set number of sessions. A retainer is paid to the Contract Host and an allowance is paid per session of support provided.

3. Shared Living

Shared Living Hosts are assessed and approved with a view to sharing their home with a person on a full-time basis with the responsibility as the main carer(s). The person may spend some time during the month with their own family or with another family but their main residence is with the Shared Living Host. An allowance and retainer are paid monthly.

Breaks can be for a couple of hours, overnight, weekends or even longer. Each break is arranged around the person's preferences and each Host Carer's preferences and availability.

We are currently looking for HomeSharers in

Limerick – Check out Avista.ie or contact Avista HomeShare Coordinator Catherine O'Sullivan on catherine.osullivan@lim-docservice.ie or **087 4132888** for further information.

Clare – Check out BrothersofCharityClare.ie or contact Brothers Of Charity HomeShare Co-Ordinator Karen Downes directly on homeshareclare@bocsi.ie or **087 9235130** for further information.

North Tipperary – Check out EnableIreland.ie or contact Enable Ireland North Tipperary HomeShare Coordinator Debbie Finn, directly on **087 9669880** for further information.

