

Common Types of Housing and Supports

Housing and supports options come together based on the unique needs of each person, the type and amount of support they require, the availability of specific types of housing, and the persons' financial resources. This list of housing and support options is not exhaustive but may help you better understand some general terms used to describe housing and supports.

You may have an arrangement for housing and support in mind, but some options are not easy to find, may not be available in certain areas or if they are, they may have a waiting list.

Housing and supports options may look different in various settings depending on:

- The number of people living together
- The type of structure (detached home, condominium, apartment, townhome)
- The location of the home (urban, suburban, rural)
- The ownership structure of the home (rented, sole ownership, shared ownership)
- The sources of income available (government income support, employment income, private/family funding)
- Formal and/or natural supports available (paid and unpaid)

Housing and Supports options will typically fall into one of the following four categories:

- A) Community Home:** Multiple people (2 or more) live in the same residence and receive up to 24/7 shared support from a staffing team. Homes can range in size and be either publicly or private owned/leased.
- B) Home Sharing:** One or two individuals share a home with a family or an individual who also provides individual support. The family or individual are paid to share their home and provide support. Homes can range in size and are privately owned/rented.
- C) Independent Living:** Individuals live in their own home (privately rented/owned) alone or with a roommate, partner or family member. Support services are separate from housing.
- D) Respite:** Short-term and temporary housing support services for individuals whose regular housing support services are temporarily unable to provide support. These services can be provided in or out of the individual's home.

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