

Helping People with Developmental Disabilities Find Supportive Housing

Province Partners with Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley in Pembroke

NEWS

January 24, 2017

Ontario is helping people with developmental disabilities find supportive housing through a program that matches them with families in their communities.

LifeShare — or the Host Family program — is an innovative residential program that provides a family setting for people with a developmental disability, where they are supported and can enjoy inclusion, independence and community belonging.

Ontario recently partnered with nine community agencies, including Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley in Pembroke, to launch an awareness campaign, [LifeShare: a place in your heart, a place in your home](#). The campaign aims to find new potential home providers, as well as raise awareness of the Host Family program.

Supporting adults with developmental disabilities through inclusive, community-based supports is part of the province's plan to help people in their everyday lives.

QUOTES

"We know there is no one-size-fits-all housing solution for adults with developmental disabilities. The Host Family program provides an opportunity to go beyond traditional residential supports and gives these individuals the opportunity to live in supportive family environments and feel more included in their communities. The LifeShare campaign will make sure that more Ontarians are aware of the great benefit of this program."

— Dr. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Community and Social Services

"Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley is excited at the opportunities that LifeShare will offer and we welcome inquiries on how you can make a positive difference in someone's life. Together is Better. Our organization has been supporting people to be full citizens of the Valley for nearly 60 years. This could be your opportunity to assist us in our vision to make choice, inclusion and quality of life a reality for adults in your community."

— Chris Grayson, Executive Director, Community Living Upper Ottawa Valley

QUICK FACTS

- There are currently more than 70,000 adults in Ontario with developmental disabilities.
- In 2016, approximately 18,000 people with developmental disabilities received government funded residential supports.
- At the end of fiscal year 2015/16 there were 1,715 individuals with development disabilities receiving service under Host Family program in more than 90 communities across the province.

LEARN MORE

- Read about [LifeShare](#) and access our marketing materials
- Watch our [LifeShare video](#)
- Learn more about [developmental services](#) in Ontario

Lyndsay Miller, Minister's Office, 416-325-5450
Daniel Schultz, Communications, 416-212-3325

ontario.ca/community-news
Disponible en français