

# Disability Support Program (DSP)

## *Service Provider Webinar*

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

# Agenda



## What will we cover today?

Today's presentation will cover information that addresses some common questions and themes from prior Home Share webinars.

This will include the following:

- Alternative Family Supports (AFS)
- Planning for Coordinating Organizations
- Respite
- Funding
- Safeguards
- Additional Questions

# Home Share | Alternative Family Support (AFS)

The Alternative Family Support (AFS) Program will **continue as a legacy program** which will phase out as Participants and Providers exit the program. This means:

- For now, Care Coordinators will continue to support and monitor existing AFS arrangements.
- Once **Home Share launches** (and Coordinating Organizations are prepared to accept Participants/Providers), **no additional AFS Providers will be onboarded.**
- In the future, AFS providers are welcome to engage with Coordinating Organizations to enquire about training options on a case-by-case basis.



# Home Share | Planning for Coordinating Organizations

The following questions came up regarding Coordinating Organizations (COs):



For the launch of Home Share, **DSP intends to recruit up to eight (8) Coordinating Organizations (COs)**. They are also committed to adapting as needed based on engagement with Participants, Providers, and COs.



An **employee of a CO may not also serve as a contracted Home Share Provider for the same organization**. An employee may enroll with a separate CO to serve as a Home Share Provider, so long as they can balance the need of both commitments.



It is the **COs responsibility to address issues with the quality of care provided to a participant from their Home Share Provider** - DSP has no direct relationship with Home Share Providers.

# Home Share | Respite for Providers

- DSP recognizes that respite is critical to support Home Share Providers. As a result, a **consistent respite allocation for Home Share Providers** has been accounted for in the design of Home Share.
- There are many options that Coordinating Organizations (COs) can explore to provide respite to their Providers, including **bringing on part-time Home Share Providers to offer respite**.
  - Another option could be **allowing full-time Home Share Providers to support respite on a rotational basis**. COs are encouraged to be creative and flexible in supporting respite.



# Home Share | Funding

## FTEs for Coordinating Organizations



DSP is providing **base funding to Coordinating Organizations for 1.5 FTEs**; how the funding is divided among staff is not prescribed. However, the **expectation is that this funding will be used for wages**. As Home Share evolves, we expect that Coordinating Organizations will be in a position to transition to a **per-Participant funding model**.

## Home Share Provider Compensation



Home Share compensation deemed **non-taxable by the CRA in some other jurisdictions**. DSP is in the process of confirming the tax status of Home compensation.

## Other Funding Considerations



DSP is committed to working in partnership with service providers as part of the broader transformation of disability services in this Province, which could include a review of the 15% administrative fee.

**Participant travel costs will need to be factored into their Home Share fees, while staff travel will be captured under admin costs.** Any exceptional situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

# Home Share | Safeguards



## How will abuse and/or neglect be addressed in Home Share?

- The Coordinating Organization (CO) **is responsible for immediately reporting the allegations** to the Disability Support Program and other authorities as appropriate (e.g., Adult Protection, Police Services).
- DSP and/or a third-party **will investigate as appropriate**. COs are responsible for cooperating with the investigation and implementing any corrective actions deemed necessary.



## What happens if a Participant causes damage to the Home Share?

- Home Share Providers will be required to **carry home and/or tenant insurance, as well as to advise their insurance provider in the use of their home**, including that they provide support to a person living with a disability. The expectation is that this insurance should cover the majority of scenarios.
- DSP will support the CO to **explore options for covering damages where situations are unique and/or extensive**. In some cases, this may need to be recovered from the Participant.

# Home Share | Additional Questions

## ? Will family members be able to provide Home Share?

- **Parents and spouses (including common-law) may not serve as Home Share Providers** for family members.
- **Siblings or extended family may serve as Home Share Providers but there** may be tax implications.

## ? What happens if a Home Share breaks down?

- COs do their best to create successful matches, however we acknowledge this will not always be the case. Quarterly monitoring visits can serve as an opportunity to **check in and prepare if there are signs of a living arrangement not working** well.
- COs are expected to be able to provide a **24-hour on-call response service, which may include the ability to implement or secure temporary living arrangements** where a breakdown is serious.



# Home Share | Recordings & Applications



- Recordings of the most recent Service Provider Webinars on Home Share have been **posted** **can can be found on the Vimeo channel** linked in the chat!
- Applications to become Coordinating Organizations were **circulated to existing service provider organizations** and will be shared again following today's webinar.

# Q & A Period

**Thank you!**