Making a Difference through Shared Living

Shared Living providers welcome individuals with developmental disabilities into their homes and lives. In the comfort and security of a stable and safe living environment, the individual is exposed to unique opportunities to develop the skills needed to participate in daily activities and thrive in the community. Whether the Shared Living provider is a family, a couple, or an individual, they support and advocate for their new extended family member to experience greater independence. This direct care respects the dignity and self-determination of the individual.

The objective of Latham Centers’ Shared Living Program is to provide a safe, secure, and enriching home setting in which the individual with special needs is empowered to develop relationships within the home and the community.

The Shared Living provider works on a contract basis with Latham Centers and is compensated monthly with a generous stipend for their services and the needs of the individual in their care.

Shared Living Provider Responsibilities

- Ensure resident’s safety and self-preservation
- Management of financial resources
- Coordination of health services (medical, dental, and mental health care)
- Appropriate grooming, attire and personal hygiene
- Utilization of vocational, social, recreational, religious, and other community resources
- Appropriate personal and social conduct
- Development and maintenance of family, social, and other interpersonal relationships
- Administration of any prescribed medications
- Assist individual in his/her attainment of personal goals per Individual Service Plan (ISP);
- Documentation of ISP goals, medication treatment, and communication log; and
- Attend annual ISP meeting and provide progress reports on individual’s ISP goals.

Certifications and Trainings

The Shared Living provider must obtain and maintain the following certifications:

- CPR
- First Aid
- DDS Human Rights/Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC)

Each Shared Living placement is uniquely tailored to meet the needs and interests of the individual with special needs.

The Shared Living provider works cooperatively with Latham Centers and the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services (DDS) in the coordination of the individual’s care. This may include allowing a representative of Latham and/or DDS to visit the home with proper notice for the purpose of:

- Monitoring the care and supports provided to the individual;
- Conducting fire and other safety inspections; and
- Carrying out case management and other programmatic compliance functions with the individual and provider.

To foster proactive communication and program continuity, the Shared Living provider is required to report all significant behavioral and/or medical related incidents involving the individual to a representative of Latham Centers and/or DDS.

Latham Centers’ Adult Services team provides extensive support to our Shared Living individuals with the following additional services:

- Nursing support
- Case management support
- On-call assistance around-the-clock

Latham supports our Shared Living providers by providing comprehensive training, on-call assistance around-the-clock, and opportunities to connect with the greater Latham community.

For more information on becoming a Shared Living Provider or providing a referral:
Telephone (774) 722-1610
gpowers@lathamcenters.org
LathamCenters.org

Our Shared Living Program serves individuals throughout Cape Cod and southeastern Massachusetts.