
Community Living disABILITY Services (CLDS) – Information about Home Share Services

Effective October 1, 2018, Community Living disABILITY Services will introduce new service definitions and supports budgets for all new individuals to CLDS residing in or transitioning to a Home Share living arrangement. It will also apply to existing CLDS participants transitioning from other residential services who are prioritized for a Home Share placement and to participants who currently reside in a home share placement and have experienced a significant change in support need.

What is a Home Share?

Home Share refers to a living situation in which an adult who is eligible for CLDS shares a home with a licensed support provider contracted to provide support and assistance. The home is owned, rented or leased by the support provider.

A Home Share living arrangement can be supported by a Service Provider Agency or be a Private Care Provider contracted directly by the Department of Families to provide Home Share Services.

Private Home Share arrangements do not have the involvement of an agency providing support and oversight.

How many people currently live in a Home Share arrangement?

The number of individuals selecting a Home Share living arrangement has increased significantly over the last number of years and the model continues to show steady growth in popularity. Currently, approximately 1,000 adults live in home share arrangements across the province.

What safeguards are in place? Are Home Share living arrangements licensed?

Residential Care Licensing (RCL) is responsible for licensing/approving all community-based homes that provide residential services funded by Community Living disABILITY Services, including Home Share placements. Residential Care Licensing ensures that care facilities comply with standards that promote the health, safety and well-being of individuals.

Families can have confidence as RCL and agencies regularly review the homes to ensure the supports continue to meet the individual's needs and to make sure the homes are safe and comfortable.

Why choose a Home Share living arrangement?

Individuals tend to choose this option because it provides an ideal balance of support and independence. Home Share arrangements have many benefits and can positively affect the quality of life. Individuals and home share providers often develop close friendships as the individuals within the home share not only their physical space, but also their daily lives. Ideally, individuals will have an opportunity to meet a variety of home share providers and choose the right fit option that will best meet their needs.

It is person-centred in that it allows individuals to select a home share provider and home environment that meet their unique goals and preferences. Support is flexible and evolves according to the individuals' changing needs. For some, the home share arrangement prepares individuals to even greater independence. For others, it is an arrangement that often lasts for many years.

What is the Supports Intensity Scale or SIS?

You may have already had a SIS assessment, or you may be having one soon.

The SIS is an assessment that was developed by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) (<https://aidd.org/sis>)

The SIS is conducted through an interview with you and people who know you well by a trained SIS facilitator.

The purpose of the SIS is to create an opportunity to talk about your goals, preferences, understand **how often** you need support, **what type** of support you need, and **how much** support you need in areas of daily life.

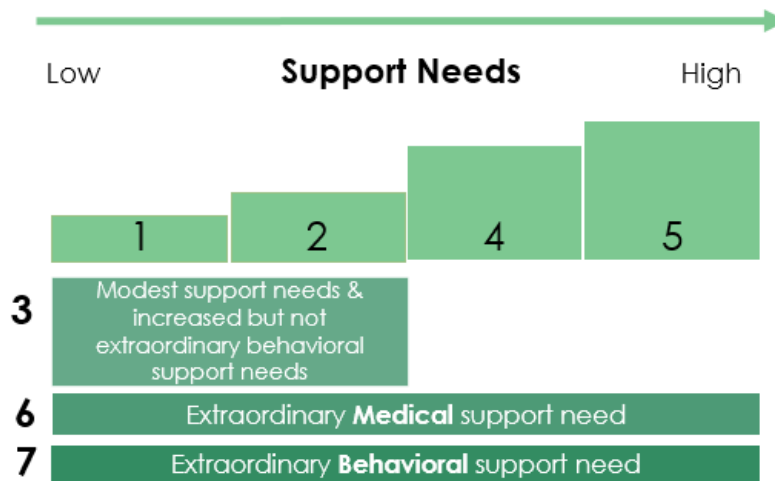
The SIS facilitator will also ask about any extraordinary medical or behavioral support needs that you might have. Other parts of the SIS will help you and your support network develop a good person-centred plan.

The SIS provides an opportunity for individuals to communicate their support needs (family, support network etc. are present to help answer the questions). CLDS chose this approach to empower the individual and his/her family to discuss their support needs in ways that did not always happen before the introduction of the SIS.

More information about the SIS can be found here:
https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/pubs/sis_fact_sheet.pdf



What are the Supports Budget Levels?

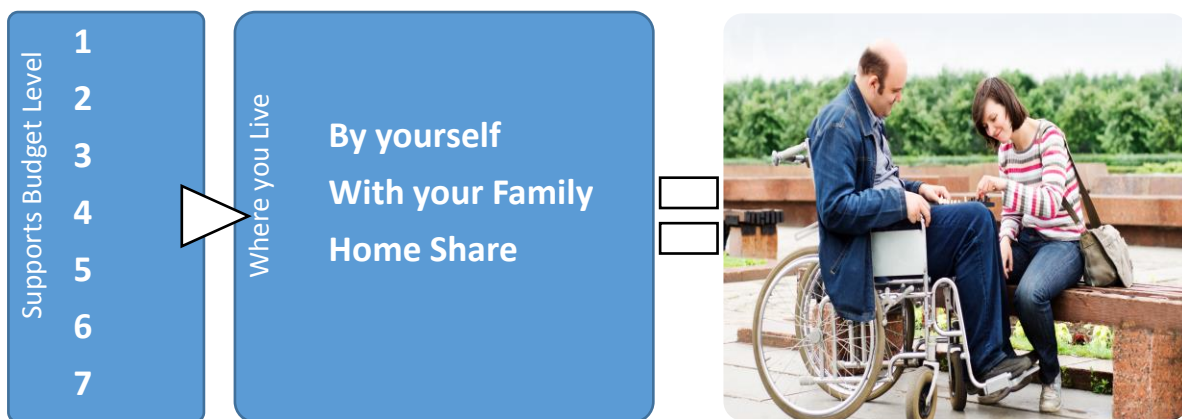


Each person will get a Supports Budget Level based on their support needs.

People receiving a Support Budget Level of 1 have the lowest support needs and people receiving Support Budget Levels 6 and 7 have the highest support needs. Support Budget Level 6 is reserved for people who need a lot of medical support and Support Budget Levels 3 and 7 are reserved for people who need support to address their behavior.

What is a Personal Supports Budget?

A Personal Supports Budget is an amount of money that a person has available to access CLDS services in your community. Your Personal Supports Budget is determined by your Supports Budget Level and your living arrangement. Currently, the services that fall within the Personal Supports Budget Model are Respite and In Home Services for individuals living with family, Supported Independent Living, Day Services and now Home Share. Eventually, the Personal Supports Budget Framework will apply to all CLDS services, including shift-staffed homes.



What if the individual has not had a SIS assessment completed and a Supports Budget Level has not been determined? What funding are they eligible to receive?

The majority of individuals transitioning into CLDS have already gone through the SIS interview process. However, in situations where an individual has not yet had a SIS interview, CLDS will negotiate a short term rate (typically 3 months) until a SIS interview is complete and a Supports Budget Level has been determined.

A young adult transitioning into CLDS intends to remain in a long-term placement from CFS. However, the funding to the home share providers is more than what CLDS will fund. What will happen?

It is the intent of the program to introduce greater transparency, consistency, and to fairly compensate home share providers. In the past, funding to home share providers varied across the province. Individuals transitioning from CFS into CLDS will be expected to work within the CLDS Home Share Funding Model. Individuals with unique and truly exceptional support needs may choose to go through the Exceptions Review Process for exceptional consideration.

I am an existing Home Share Care Provider, when will my rates be adjusted to the new funding model?

CLDS is implementing the *building on abilities* initiative little by little, and not all at once. CLDS plans to select particular groups of individuals and implement planned changes one group at a time. Often this begins with new individuals entering CLDS for the first time or individuals transitioning into a new living arrangement. The first phase of the Home Share Implementation plan focusses on new individuals to CLDS and individuals transitioning into a Home Share arrangement for the first time and existing participants who are experiencing a significant change in support needs. CLDS will be announcing details about future phases of the Home Share Implementation approach for the existing individuals currently residing in the model later in 2019.

What about Kinship Care? Can adult home share providers be related to the individual?

In the Child Welfare System, if a child is unable to be cared for by their biological parents, other family members or members of the community can come forward to care for the child. Kinship Care refers to children placed with extended family, such as a grandparent.

However, in the adult system, it is not possible for Residential Care Licensing to issue a letter of approval for kinship living arrangements with family members and as such would not be eligible for Home Share funding. In CLDS, individuals who choose to live with a family member(s) can receive In Home Supports such as respite, supports to families, and may be eligible to receive room and board financial support through Employment and Income Assistance.

My agency does not currently offer Home Share as residential option within my organization. What can we do to learn more about the model and to possible develop the capacity within the agency to offer the service?

CLDS certainly encourages agencies to consider alternate models of service (Supported Independent Living, Home Share, etc.) within their continuum of services. Agencies may want to engage in a strategic plan with their board of directors to determine future planning needs. Agencies may want to talk with other agencies who have well established Home Share models of service for advice and mentorship. Agencies should talk with their regional CLDS program manager about regional needs and capacity development opportunities.

Where can I get more information about CLDS and *building on abilities*?

You can get more information about CLDS here:

https://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/supported_living.html

You can get more information about *building on abilities* by contacting your Community Services Worker or by email at buildingonabilities@gov.mb.ca.