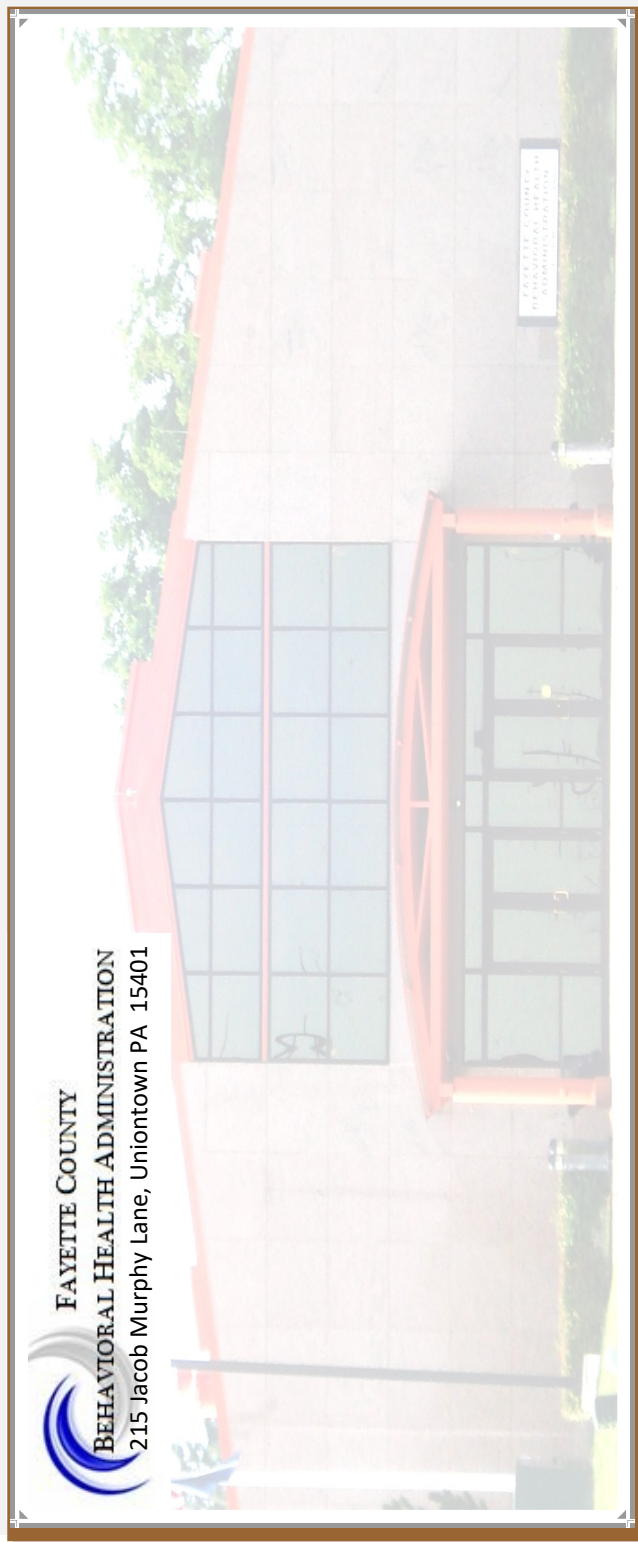


Lifesharing began in 1982 with a family in Berks County who wanted to support a friend in their own home. It is also known as “Family Living” which better describes the lifestyles and choices of the people being supported.

Lifesharing allows individuals with an Intellectual or Developmental disability the opportunity to live with and share life experiences with supportive families in a caring household with personal relationships.

Living with a family enriches the lives of individuals with a wide variety of needs and challenges by offering another residential living option.



ABOUT LIFESHARING IN FAYETTE COUNTY



Fayette County
Behavioral Health Administration
www.FCBHA.org

HOW DOES LIFESHARING THROUGH FAMILY LIVING WORK ?



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LIFESHARING:

- ◆ Call FCBHA -(724) 430-1370 and ask to speak with someone in the Administrative Entity.
- ◆ Speak with your Supports Coordinator
- ◆ Visit www.palifesharing.com
- ◆ Visit www.dpw.state.pa.us
- ◆ Visit www.odpconsulting.net/topic-info/lifesharing-everyday-living-options
- ◆ Visit www.hcsis.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Bulletin Information
Google PA ODP Bulletin 00-05-04:
Lifesharing through Family Living

Fayette County
Behavioral Health Administration
215 Jacob Murphy Lane
Uniontown, PA 15401
(724) 430-1370
www.FCBHA.org



I MAY WANT TO PARTICIPATE, I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS ?

Who Can Participate in Lifesharing?

Any person who is looking for a community placement, whether or not they are already in another form of placement. Talk with your Supports Coordinator if you are interested.

How many people can receive Lifesharing in one home?

One or two people with disabilities can reside in a single home.

How will I be matched with a Lifesharing Provider?

Your needs and preferences are always considered. You must feel comfortable in your new home and that home must be able to provide for your needs. Both you and the Lifesharing provider must feel comfortable. A trial period can help make sure that everyone is happy.

What are the benefits of Lifesharing?

- ◆ Be a contributing member of a family
- ◆ Receive individualized attention & support
- ◆ Develop trusting and caring relationships

I MAY WANT TO BE A LIFESHARING PROVIDER, WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

What Does a Lifesharing through Family Living Provider Do?

- ◆ Provide a safe, nurturing, and healthy environment where the participant will have choice
- ◆ Provide for a traditional family and community living arrangement
- ◆ Follow all the regulations of their provider agency as well as those of FCBHA and the Pennsylvania DPW, Office of Developmental Programs

What Qualifications Would I Need?

- ◆ Have time to support a Lifesharing relationship
- ◆ Have the space to support the participant
- ◆ Have the ability to support the participant's needs
- ◆ Pass a criminal background check and child abuse clearances

Lifesharing Providers must complete training annually on things like:

- ◆ First Aid, Heimlich, and CPR techniques
- ◆ Family interactions and building relationships
- ◆ Individual Support Plans and putting them into practice