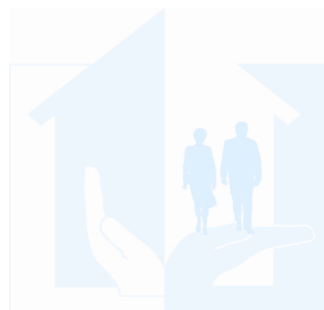


## What Lifesharing has meant to me and my family....

*I believe God created us to share our lives with others—for me, that means sharing my home, my life with others. The individuals that have shared their lives with me have been a great blessing to my family.*

*Irene Herman  
Lifesharing Provider*



## Purpose

Friendship Community is a faith-based, non-profit organization offering residential services, training in daily living skills, and social services to people with developmental disabilities.

### **Mission Statement**

A Christian ministry serving persons with developmental disabilities

### **Vision Statement**

To be a community which:

- Affirms the worth of all people.
- Responds to families and individuals seeking a Christian program.
- Supports personal growth and wholeness.
- Advocates community and church inclusion.
- Provides opportunities for spiritual growth and service.



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# The Lifesharing Program at Friendship Community



**S**erving persons with developmental disabilities

## FAQs About Lifesharing

### What is Lifesharing?

The Lifesharing Program matches individuals with developmental disabilities with people who are willing to open their homes and lives for a long term commitment.

### Who can become a Lifesharing Provider?

You need to be twenty-one years or older, have an extra bedroom available in your home, and be willing to share your life with someone.



### How are you and the individual matched?

Friendship Community is committed to finding the best possible match for Lifesharing Providers and Individuals.

Preferences such as whether Providers would like a male or a female, or the Individual likes children or pets, are taken into serious consideration.

Once a match seems right, meetings and visits are scheduled. Upon commitment to lifesharing, a placement date is scheduled.

### How long do people participate in Lifesharing?

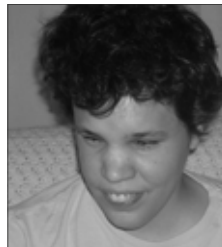
Friendship Community asks that Lifesharing Providers agree to a minimum two year commitment. However, the goal of Lifesharing is a much longer commitment.

### What are the responsibilities of Lifesharing Providers?

- To provide a stable, enriched home life
- To provide well-balanced meals
- To teach daily living skills
- To provide transportation
- To participate in program meetings
- To maintain the regulations required, including annual inspections

### Are Lifesharing Providers compensated?

Lifesharing Providers receive compensation each month, depending on the needs of the Individual. The primary funding for this program is through Lancaster County's Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program.



### What support does Friendship Community provide?

- Orientation and training
- 24-hour on-call system to assist with emergencies
- Weekly contact with Lifesharing homes
- Development and monitoring of programs
- Ensures the regulations required by the State are being followed

### Why should I become a Lifesharing Provider?

- Because I can serve God from my home
- Because it gives me an opportunity to enrich my family's lives with relationships
- Because I have an empty room in my house and room in my life to share with someone



### How do I become a Lifesharing Provider?

1. Call the Lifesharing Coordinator at (717) 656-2466.
2. An interview will be arranged to gather information and answer questions.
3. Criminal background checks will be done and references will be checked.
4. There will be additional interview times and visits to your home.
5. The Lifesharing Department will evaluate and approve Lifesharing Providers.
6. Providers will attend orientation and training sessions.