

ISAC Recommendation #10: Expand Options for Community Living



Expand the range of housing options in the community so all people can live where and with whom they want to live. Listening to people with disabilities and their families, providers, and Support Coordinators will help people locate affordable and accessible housing, find house mates, and identify housing resources/supports and other government benefits that, when blended with natural supports, will promote an everyday life.

Current Strategy	Accomplishments that support this Strategy	Recommendation for this Strategy (retain, revise, replace)
<p>1. Establish a housing transition and tenancy sustaining service definition: Direct services provided to assist individuals and self-advocates with planning, locating, and maintaining a home of their own. Services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ assessing the individual’s community living skills and housing needs; ○ assistance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● locating housing; ● applying for housing vouchers/applications; ● finding and establishing a relationship with a housemate; ● financial planning and education family including special needs trusts and ABLE accounts; ● communicating with landlords; ● arranging for home modifications and repairs; consider warranty periods; ● making security payments and monthly payments; ● purchasing necessary home security devices; ● obtaining and using assistive technology; ● coordinating the move; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enrolled several providers who are beginning to deliver this service. ● Authorized services for individuals to plan, locate and maintain a home of their own. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review the services definition and limits to determine if it is meeting the needs. ● Review the rate to ensure it is adequate. ● Develop a training for SCOs, AEs and providers on the service.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arranging support services; • securing government benefits, household furnishings, and utility assistance; and • providing training on tenant rights, empowerment, advocacy, and how to be a good tenant. 		
<p>2. Expand understanding of what is possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote development and distribution of education/training/technical assistance to individuals and self-advocates to increase knowledge of options and ability to make informed choices. • Ensure development and distribution of education/training/technical assistance for families through the Supporting Families initiative. This should include planning for the future so that families can explore what is possible. The education should include items like ABLE accounts, sustaining housing, and community support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and delivery of trainings specifically directed at individuals using the Community of Practice. • Each regional Community of Practice lead conducts outreach trainings and presentations directed at supporting individuals and their families to explore what it possible. 	
<p>3. Expand LifeSharing to allow for the enrollment of birth families as life sharing providers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifesharing has been expanded in the waiver to include birth families as a lifesharing provider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain this and begin to develop material to help SCs and families

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		understand the benefit to delivering this service.
4. Develop a supported living option that enables individuals and self-advocates to live in their own homes with the support of an agency available to provide guidance and assistance as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Living services definitions has been developed and added to the ID/A waivers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to promote this service as a alternative to residential habilitation. Develop more specific material to help SCs explain the benefit of the services to individuals and families.
5. Provide training to Supports Coordinators on the varied options for community living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinars were delivered to SCs regarding the new community living options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As stated above, develop additional training based on the experience thus far.
6. Expand choice of options to include creative housing alternatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with PHFA on options available for individuals being supported by ODP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work on developing more integrated options that support the EDLs philosophy.
7. Support the development of safe and affordable housing options that meet the individual's and self-advocates personal preferences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The housing transision and pretenancy service requires the development of a housing plan that includes the individual personal preferences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the current providers of the Housing transition and pretenancy to identify options that support individual preference.
8. Provide access to home modifications, transportation, and assistive technology to support people to live in their homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ID/A waivers include the option for home modification, transportation and assistive technology for individuals living in their own home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to help SCs and providers learn how to use technology to promote independence.

New Strategies and/or Strategies that have been implemented but were not included in the original 2016 list

1.