Creating Connections: Reducing Loneliness Among Adults in La Plata County



Coordinated by



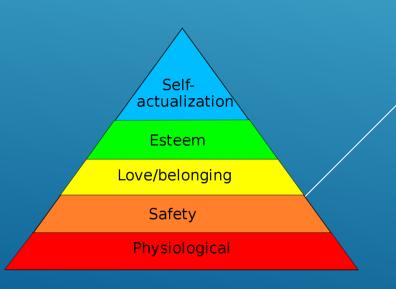
Loneliness is a Health Issue

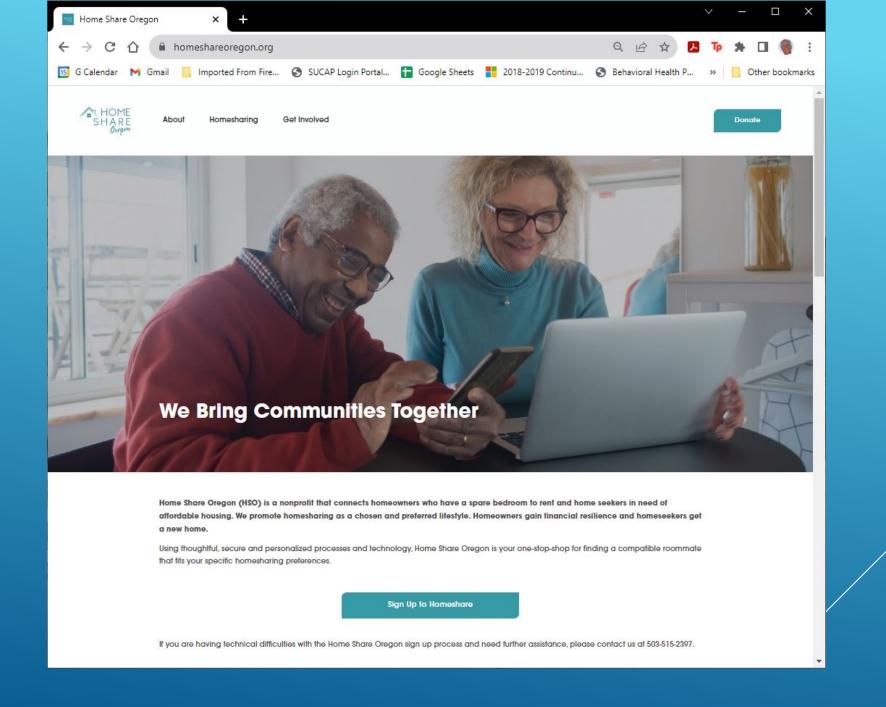


The evidence is clear that strengthening social connections will improve behavioral and physical health of adult community members.

On Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs,

Love & Belonging is the third most important basic need coming after food, water, sleep, and the safety of home. (Maslow, AH. 1943)









Southwest

Home Share

community based housing solutions



HOMESHARING: THE HARMONY OF DIFFERENT LIVES COEXISTING UNDER ONE ROOF.





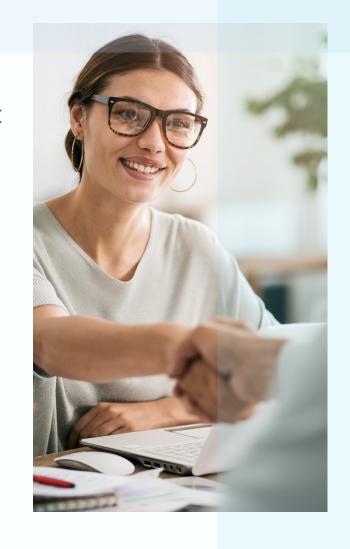




SHARED HOUSING: WHAT IS IT EXACTLY?

• involves two or more individuals sharing a dwelling to meet economical, independence and social needs

- Each party has a private bedroom with a shared or private bathroom and access to common areas in the home
- All involved individuals define a mutually beneficial Homeshare agreement and recognize basic household expectations



All participants exercise personal choice and personal agency when selecting and connecting with a match

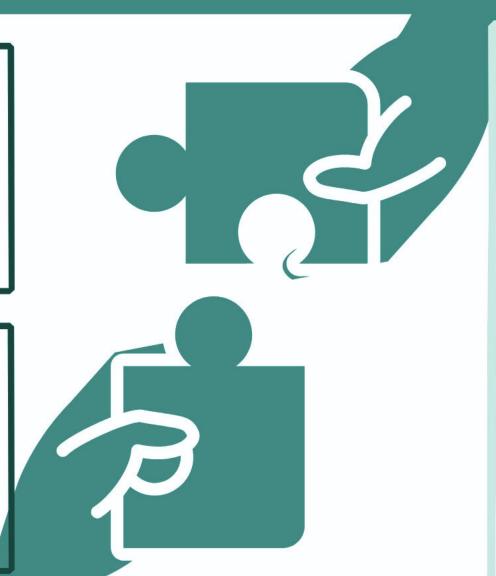
Participants

Home Providers:

are individuals that have a spare room in their home (apartment, ADU, house, mobile, condo, etc.)



are local individuals seeking an affordable room to move into



You do not need to own your home to apply to be a Home Provider. **Applicants that** do not own will need to provide written permission from

landlord/owner

allowing an

additional tenant

Match Agreement Options

O1 Rent Exchange

- Home Seeker pays rents in exchange for private living space and use of common areas
- month-to-month lease
- monthly rent is at or below fair market value (typically less than \$1000)

O2 Service Exchange

- Home seeker provides up to 20 hours weekly of services in exchange for a private room
- Services can include: transportation, laundry, land or yard maintenance, errands, meals, pet sitting, companionship, etc.
- All services and expected hours of service will be agreed to prior to move in date

O3 Combination Exchange

- Home seeker agrees to provide a combination of services in exchange for reduced rent
- Combination Exchange is ideal for students or individuals with full time employment
- weekly hours do not exceed 10 hours of service work

HERE'S HOW TYPICALLY WORKS:

1. Matching:

Silvernest provides an online platform where homeowners can create profiles and list the available space in their homes. Potential housemates, often younger adults or individuals seeking affordable housing, can also create profiles highlighting their preferences and needs.

2. Compatibility:

The platform employs algorithms and compatibility assessments to match homeowners with potential housemates based on factors like lifestyle preferences, interests, and shared values. This helps ensure that the living arrangement is likely to be harmonious.

3. Safety:

Silvernest often includes safety measures such as background checks and reference checks to help build trust and security between the homeowner and potential housemate. A background screen covers national and county criminal record searches, eviction history, Social Security number verification, global watch list search, and sex offender registry search. Such searches are available to both home providers and seekers

HERE'S HOW



4. Communication:

The platform facilitates communication between homeowners and potential housemates, allowing them to connect, discuss their expectations, and ensure that their goals align-without having to reveal personal phone numbers or home address

5. Agreements:

Once a suitable match is found, Silvernest can assist in creating formal agreements that outline the terms of the living arrangement. This can include details about rent, responsibilities, house rules, and more.

6. Ongoing Support:

Silvernest may provide ongoing support and resources to help both parties navigate the house-sharing experience successfully. This could include guidance on effective communication, conflict resolution, and other related topics

COMMUNITY PARTNERS REACHED SO FAR, AND SUPPORTIVE OF A HOME SHARE PILOT

- Housing staff from City of Durango, La Plata County, the Economic Development Alliance, Regional Housing Authority, Region 9 Economic Development District, Ft. Lewis College, Housing Solutions, NINA, Project Moxie
- > CHAC members Lynn Westberg, Liza Tregillus & Kathy Turner
- Civic parters: Durango BID, Tim Walsworth, Durango Chamber CEO Jack Llewellyn, town of Bayfield trustee Brenna Morlan, town of Ignacio Mayor Clark Craig
- Business partners: Mercy Hospital CEO Brandon, School District 9R HR Executive Director Laura Galido, Homes Fund, Durango Area Association of Realtors, Colin Rader, Exit Realty, Durango Senior Center
- Faith community partners: UUFD (Basic Needs team), more to be invited!

ALL ROOMMATES HAVE THE DESIRE TO be matched based on common interests and affordability.



La Plata County retirees ages 65 and older make up a significant portion of the area's population, with 10,862 people in that age range - or nearly 20% of the county's population as of 2020, according to the Colorado Demography Office.

HOMESHARING CAN BE BENEFICIAL FOR A WIDE RANGE OF DEMOGRAPHICS, EACH WITH THEIR OWN UNIQUE NEEDS AND CIRCUMSTANCES.

- Workforce professionals
 - People in Transition
- Empty Nesters
- Individuals Saving to Meet Long-Term Goals
- Retirees

- Seniors and Older Adults
- SeasonalWorkers
- Environmental Enthusiasts
- Individuals on Fixed Income
 - Young Adults

- Single Parents
- Students
- Caretakers
- Newcomers
- Artists and Creatives
- Individuals with
 Disabilities

BENEFITS OF PROVIDING SHARED HOUSING



- Decreased isolation and loneliness
- Intergenerational and intercultural connection
- Shared expenses
- Economic stability
- Companionship
- Presence in the home when one will be gone for an extended period of time
- Peace of mind knowing someone is there
- Help around the house
- Elders may be able to stay in thier home longer
- . Renewed sense on contribution
- Learning through new experiences and friendships
- Maintain ones home in a safe and functional condition
- Decreased strain on the local rental market and student housing

YOUR ACTIVE
PARTICIPATION HAS THE
POWER TO CREATE A
SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT
AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE
OVERALL VITALITY OF
OUR COMMUNITY, AS WE
ARE FORTIFIED BY A
DIVERSE AND ROBUST
COLLECTIVE.

While we encourage anyone to apply, we are particularly hopeful about the prospect of homeowners providing support to local workforce members and college students who may be facing challenges affording the rent in this area.

We need your help.



Thank You

