



## Our Mission:

To empower and serve people in need of specialized supports by providing innovative services that improve their ability to live fulfilling lives in the community.

### Main Office

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### Schuylkill/Carbon

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800.200.7701 (toll-free)  
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Mental Health Wellness Center  
570.366.5096 (phone)  
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### Lehigh Valley

1510 Valley Center Parkway, Suite 130  
Bethlehem, PA 18017-2267  
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[www.accessservices.org](http://www.accessservices.org)



## ACCESS SERVICES

Creating better ways to serve people with special needs

# Host Family Opportunities

*Home is Where the Heart Is*



## ACCESS SERVICES

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Many individuals with disabilities achieve significant success in life – but to get there they require a nurturing and supportive family environment that provides stability and love.

Access Services has matched hundreds of adults and children with host families over the years and these relationships offer profound meaning to all the individuals involved.

### Host Family for Adults

Adults with developmental challenges have not always had access to host family programs like foster care. Access Services has changed that for hundreds of individuals and brought joy and meaning to the families that open their homes to an adult making their way in the world. Many of these adults attend jobs, education classes or day programs, but the stability and independence of a Host Family provides a deeply meaningful and personalized sanctuary.

### Host Family for Children

While many children in our region require foster parents, Access Services only serves children with disabilities because they are often the least able to find the help they truly need and deserve. Therapeutic Foster Parents serve as both caregivers for children with needs (the fostering role), and active agents of planned change (the treatment role). They are viewed as colleagues and part of a professional team.



Therapeutic Foster Parents take on the professional, yet loving role of healer and nurturer for children aged four to eighteen years of age who are in need of direction and stability in their lives. In other words, Therapeutic Foster Parents perform the function of a loving parent, with the added support of a treatment team and treatment plan. Whenever possible, reunification with the natural family is a goal. In either case, lives are changed forever by the gift of love in a supportive home.

### Becoming a Host Family

Our recruitment department is dedicated to finding caring, qualified individuals and families to be Access Services Host Family providers. Each Host Family takes part in an orientation, a comprehensive home-study, home safety inspection as well as criminal, child abuse, and background screenings before being accepted. In addition, all families receive ongoing training, support and guidance.

By becoming a Host Family provider, you will enjoy the opportunity to significantly improve the quality of life for the individual in your care. There are also short-term care-giving opportunities available for those interested in becoming a Respite Host Family.

For more information, on host family opportunities or other Access Services programs, visit [www.accessservices.org](http://www.accessservices.org).