



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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Lehigh Valley

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www.accessservices.org



**ACCESS
SERVICES**

Creating better ways to serve
people with special needs

Lifesharing

A home to live and grow in.



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people with special needs

Sharing life, gaining independence.

When families are unable to provide care for their loved ones with developmental disabilities, we offer Lifesharing services to satisfy their unmet needs. Through Lifesharing, these individuals enjoy the benefits of nurturing homes and qualified host families, specifically trained to provide support and personalized, long-term care.

Individuals in the Lifesharing program attend school, work and day programs. As they become more comfortable in their new homes, they begin to forge new relationships and lead fuller, more fulfilling lives.

A qualified, compassionate host-family.

Lifesharing is based on the needs of each individual. Before moving in together, host families and care recipients meet to gather information and ensure a good match. Host families also receive constant support and guidance from colleagues and Access Services' professional Lifesharing teams.

All host families undergo an extensive application process, submit multiple references, pass a thorough home safety inspection and criminal, child abuse and police background screenings. Finally, there is a home study process in which an Access Services employee interviews the host family in their environment.



The role of the natural family.

Families of care recipients are encouraged to take part in the Lifesharing process as much as possible. Once the Lifesharing program begins, the natural family is able to continue being a part of their loved one's life through visits, support, holidays spent together and participation in team meetings. The ongoing role of each family is unique to each situation.

Why choose Access Services' Lifesharing?

- Access Services has been providing Lifesharing since 1984.
- Access Services offers one of the largest Lifesharing programs in Pennsylvania.
- One quarter of all Lifesharing host families have been with Access Services for over ten years.
- Access Services maintains one of the most extensive networks of host families in the area.
- Lifesharing recipients learn skills to help them to lead more independent fulfilling lives.
- Lifesharing is more affordable than most residential living options.

For more information on Lifesharing or other Access Services programs, visit

www.accessservices.org