

Policy Number: QA7.400	Policy Section: Quality Assurance	Effective: March 2008 Amended: April 1, 2023
Title: Standards for Home Sharing Policy		Executive Sponsor: Vice President, Quality Services & Indigenous Relations

Summary

This policy supports the *Standards for Home Sharing*. The *Standards for Home Sharing* help make sure that people living in Home Sharing services are safe, healthy, and able to meet their goals.

The policy explains that the *Standards for Home Sharing* are to be used by:

- Home Sharing Providers who are providing the service
- Coordinating agencies contracting with Home Sharing Providers., and
- CLBC staff understand their roles and responsibilities.

It explains where Home Sharing Providers, coordinating agencies, and CLBC staff can get more information.

This policy is one of several policies that outline how Home Sharing Providers and coordinating agencies oversee Home Sharing services.

1. PURPOSE

The *Standards for Home Sharing* establish provincial requirements to guide Home Sharing Providers and agencies coordinating the delivery of Home Sharing (Coordinating Agencies) in the delivery of Home Sharing services. This policy reflects updates to the *Standards for Home Sharing*, including changes to enhance quality of life outcomes, ensure alignment with the *Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing*, and introduce standards that reflect CLBC's values.

The *Standards for Home Sharing* provide a foundation for the delivery of Home Sharing services, ensuring that:

- Responsibilities and expectations for the Home Sharing service are outlined by and for the individual accessing the service and their Home Sharing Provider,
- Individuals accessing Home Sharing services receive consistent, high-quality, person-centred support,

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- Individuals are supported to achieve quality of life outcomes, and
- Coordinating Agencies support Home Sharing Providers in the implementation of the standards.

They also inform the work of Agency Coordinators responsible for monitoring the delivery and quality of Home Sharing services.

The *Standards for Home Sharing Policy* applies to Home Sharing Providers delivering Home Sharing services, agencies coordinating and monitoring the delivery of Home Sharing services. CLBC staff responsible for evaluating coordinating agencies' implementation and compliance with the *Standards for Home Sharing*.

The policy forms one part of a comprehensive organizational approach to quality assurance and should be reviewed together with other relevant CLBC policies, including but not limited to, those identified in *Schedule C: Service Requirements* of the *Service Terms and Conditions*, the *Home Sharing Service Terms and Conditions*, the *Standards for Home Sharing*, the *Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing*, and the *Standards for Unaccredited Service Providers*. They are meant to be applied together as a set of standardized requirements and guidance to support CLBC, Coordinating Agencies, and Home Sharing Provider's continuous quality improvement efforts.

2. DEFINITIONS

Agency Coordinated: Services coordinated by a community-based agency.

Cultural Safety: An outcome of respectful engagement based on recognition of the power imbalances inherent to service systems, and the work to address these imbalances. A culturally safe environment for Indigenous peoples is one that is physically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually safe without challenge, ignorance, or denial of an individual's identity. Practicing cultural safety requires having knowledge of the colonial, sociopolitical, and historical events that trigger disparities Indigenous Peoples encounter and perpetuate and maintain ongoing racism and unequal treatment.

Home Sharing: A Shared Living arrangement that supports eligible adults to live in the community. It is a service in which an eligible adult and a person who is paid to provide support live together in a home that is rented or owned by the paid support person. The home is the primary residence of both the individual receiving supports and the person(s) providing them.

Home Sharing Provider: A person (e.g., a single person, couples, or families) that contracts with a CLBC-funded agency to deliver the Home Sharing service.

Individual: A person 19 years of age or older who is eligible for CLBC services as described in the *Eligibility Policy*.

Live-In-Support: A Shared Living arrangement in which an adult eligible for CLBC services shares their home with a contracted service provider in order to access ongoing support. It can also include an established joint tenancy.

Quality of Life: A multidimensional framework composed of core domains influenced by personal characteristics and environmental factors. These core domains fall under three broad areas of independence, social participation and well-being and are the same for all people, although they may vary individually or culturally in relative value and importance. Assessment of quality of life domains is based on culturally sensitive indicators, and generally takes into account general health, well-being, and happiness.

Service Provider: A person or organization under contract with CLBC, including their employees, contractors, sub-contractors, and volunteers to deliver supports and services to individuals, families and/or support networks. The term is also utilized in situations where a contract has not yet been issued such as during an approval or procurement process. For this policy, Service Provider and Agency will be used interchangeably.

Shared Living: A situation where an individual shares a home with someone contracted to provide ongoing support, and the home is the primary residence of both of them. Shared living includes Home Sharing and Live-In Support.

Standards: A universally agreed-upon set of guidelines that define expectations, processes, outcomes, and a mechanism for evaluation.

3. POLICY

3.1 Home Sharing Providers are required to meet (or exceed) the *Standards for Home Sharing* which form part of their contractual requirements with Coordinating Agencies and CLBC. The *Standards for Home Sharing* guide Coordinating Agencies and Home Sharing Providers on how to meet the contractual and policy requirements outlined in the *Service Terms and Conditions* and the *Home-Sharing Service Terms and Conditions*.

3.2 Home Sharing Provider and Coordinating Agencies approach the *Standards for Home Sharing* in a culturally safe and supportive way that aligns with the *Cultural Safety Policy*, demonstrating respect and sensitivity for an individual's culture.

3.3 The *Standards for Home Sharing* contractually require Home Sharing Providers and Coordinating Agencies to align service delivery to further the achievement of individuals' quality of life outcomes.

3.4 Coordinating Agencies responsible for monitoring the quality of service delivery are familiar with this policy and other policies that inform CLBC's Monitoring Framework, including but not

limited to those identified in *Schedule C: Service Requirements* of the *Service Terms and Conditions* and the *Home-Sharing Service Terms and Conditions*.

3.5 The *Standards for Home Sharing* are applied in situations both where the service is delivered in the Home Sharing Provider's home or in the individual's home (i.e., Live-In Support).

3.6 The *Standards for Home Sharing* should be applied together with the *Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing* and the *Standards for Unaccredited Service Providers*.

3.7 Agencies coordinating the delivery of Home Sharing services must establish internal mechanisms to effectively monitor compliance with the *Standards for Home Sharing*. CLBC staff use the Monitoring Framework and associated tools to evaluate the Coordinating Agencies' implementation and compliance with the *Standards for Home Sharing* and related service outcome expectations.

4. REFERENCES

[Eligibility Policy](#)

[Cultural Safety Policy](#)

[Cultural Safety CLBC Service Provider Practice Guide](#)

[Home Sharing Service Terms and Conditions for Contracts between Community Living British Columbia and Home Sharing Providers](#)

[Monitoring Framework and Practice Guide](#)

[Monitoring Policy](#)

[Q&A for CLBC Staff: Standards for Home Sharing](#)

[Q&A for CLBC Staff: Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing](#)

[Q&A for Service Providers: Standards for Home Sharing](#)

[Q&A for Service Providers: Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing](#)

[Service Terms and Conditions for Contracts between Community Living British Columbia and Service Providers](#)

[Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing: Self-Assessment Tool](#)

[Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing](#)

[Standards for the Coordination of Home Sharing Policy](#)

[Standards for Home Sharing](#)

[Standards for Unaccredited Service Providers](#)