

FAMILY MODEL RESIDENTIAL SERVICES TIP SHEET

This residential service is provided in the home of a family trained and supervised by a licensed residential service agency. Most often no more than two service recipients live in the home.

Advantages

- Low turnover: the average longevity of the families is 10 years.
- Recruitment from different labor market than for other types of residential staff makes available a wide range of family providers.
- Family home environment fosters a sense of security and continuity.
- Affords opportunity for stable relationships with neighbors, extended family members and friends.
- Cost effective: no deposits are required and only 70% of the individual's SSI is required for room and board compared to 80% or more for other options.
- The home is ready to move into – furnishings, deposits, etc. are not required.

Disadvantages

- When and if relationship ends, the individual has to move.
- Family may impose their values on the person.
- Family Providers may not see the paperwork as a priority.
- Probably not appropriate for people with very severe behavioral problems.
- Probably not appropriate for individuals with very significant medical conditions unless the caregiver in the family is a nurse.
- Supervising agency needs a skilled manager to oversee the supports and paperwork requirements.