



NACL

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www.nanaimoacl.com



NACL

Nanaimo Association
for Community Living

HOME SHARE PROGRAM



For the People and
Families/Caregivers We Support



NACL is proudly accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities

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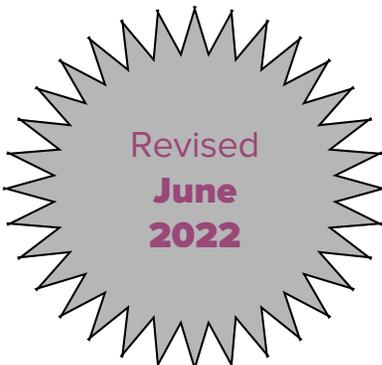
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Envisioning “A world
where all people with
diversabilities thrive.”



Welcome to Nanaimo Association for Community Living (NACL) and our Home Share Program. This handbook has all the information on what you need to know about our Home Share services.

If you have any questions or want to see our full Policy and Procedure Manual, please contact the Program Manager. We encourage you to read this handbook, and keep it for future reference.

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PART 1: About NACL



Nanaimo Association for Community Living (NACL) is a non-profit society formed under the Societies Act of British Columbia. NACL has been actively supporting people with diversabilities in Nanaimo and the surrounding area since July 22, 1986.

A detailed history of NACL can be found on our website at: <https://www.nanaimoacl.com/our-history>

NACL has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) since 2005.

Our mission and vision guide our programs, activities, and decisions.

OUR MISSION

“Through an unwavering commitment to delivering high quality services with integrity, to actively support as many people with diversabilities as possible in their journey to lead thriving lives.”

OUR VISION

“A world where all people with diversabilities thrive.”



NACL's Core Values

NACL is dedicated to removing the barriers faced by people with diversabilities preventing them from reaching their full potential. NACL is committed to the following core values:

- ***Person-Centered Planning***

We use person-centered planning to ensure the services we design and the supports we deliver are, at every stage driven by the individual needs and aspirations of people we support.

- ***Equity, Diversity and Inclusion***

Through active support and inclusive engagements, NACL is keen to build strong and lasting relationships with all people with diversabilities. We recognize that developing meaningful connections with individuals of varying ages, cultures, races, ethnicities and genders requires authentic conversation, active listening and a dedication to self-education.

- ***Respect***

In all our interactions, we treat people with respect and kindness.

- ***Safety***

In all our work, we prioritize the safety and security of the people we support, their families and our NACL staff members.

- ***Sustainability***

We are unwavering in our commitment to sustainable practices that benefit local communities, the environment and future generations.

- ***A Socially Entrepreneurial Ethos***

We are innovative. We try new things. We approach our work with an entrepreneurial spirit that ensures we best serve the people and families we support.

- ***Accessible Communication***

Great communication is accessible communication. We are designing our communications efforts to be inclusive and accessible to all people.



Statement of Diversity

Nanaimo Association for Community Living (NACL) acknowledges and respects the value of a diverse community. NACL recognizes that the scope of diversity includes gender, race/ethnicity, family status, age, mental/physical abilities, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, and occupational focus.

NACL will maintain an environment that is supportive of these elements. We will promote inclusion within our organization and the communities we support.

We commit to:

- *Services that respect people and their cultural differences;*
- *Promoting cultural awareness and understanding within the Association and community;*
- *Endeavoring to reflect the diversity of our community through our Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers; and*
- *Not tolerating discrimination of any kind.*

OUR SERVICES

NACL provides services for people with diversabilities.

- *Services are targeted to youth age six (6) and up, and adults who are 19 years or older;*
- *We support approximately 215 people;*
- *NACL employs approximately 180 staff and contracts with over 90 home share providers.*

NACL's Current Programs

- **Community Inclusion** (Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.)
 - ✓ *Actions Day Program*
- **Residential Services** (provided 24/7)
 - ✓ *Caspers Way Home*
 - ✓ *Jingle Pot Home*
 - ✓ *Jingle Pot Carriage House*
 - ✓ *Kennedy Home*
 - ✓ *Maxey Road Home*
 - ✓ *Nottingham Home*
 - ✓ *Portsmouth Road Home*
 - ✓ *Prideaux Outreach*
 - ✓ *Sherwood Home*
 - ✓ *Turner Connection Home*
 - ✓ *Westwood Lake Home*
 - ✓ *Uplands Outreach*
- **Home Share** (a program where a person is matched with contractors to live with).
- **NACL Employment Services** (a program that helps people find jobs)
- **Snoezelen Room** (a multi-sensory room, booked by appointment – ask for details if you're interested)

Referrals for these services, except for the Snoezelen Room and Child and Youth Residential, are accepted through Community Living British Columbia (CLBC). Child and Youth Residential Services are referred by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). Waitlists for services are maintained by either CLBC or MCFD, as applicable.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As a registered non-profit society, NACL's membership is open to everyone by donation (except employees). NACL holds an Annual General Meeting once a year to elect a Board of Directors, talk about the past year and future planning.

The Board of Directors establishes the vision, mission, core values, principles, and Code of Ethics to guide the employees, Home Share Providers, and contractors who support the people we serve. They also set the policies NACL uses to manage the organization.

The Board hires and oversees an Executive Director, who is responsible for implementing those policies and overseeing NACL employees and Home Share Providers, as well as making day-to-day decisions about NACL operations.

PART 2: General Information for the People and Families/Caregivers We Support



Individual Rights

NACL recognizes the people we support have certain rights and responsibilities, and we strive to provide you with information about those.

People with diversabilities have the right to be free from:

1. *Abuse;*
2. *Financial or other exploitation;*
3. *Retaliation;*
4. *Humiliation; and*
5. *Neglect.*

People with diversabilities also have the right to:

- ***Equality and non-discrimination.***

People with diversabilities have an equal and effective legal protection against discrimination on all grounds.

- ***Accessibility.***

People with diversabilities have access to buildings and homes, to transportation, to information and communications technology, and to other facilities and services so they can participate fully in all aspects of life.

- ***Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information.***

People with diversabilities can exercise the right to freedom of expression and opinion, including the freedom to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas on an equal basis with others and through all forms of communication of their choice. Further, children/youth in care can be consulted and express their views, according to their abilities, about significant decisions affecting them. They have the right to be informed about and to be assisted in contacting the representative under the *Representative for Children and Youth Act* or the *Ombudsperson*.

- ***Liberty and security of the person.***

People with diversabilities should:

- *Enjoy an equal right to liberty and security of person; and*
- *Not be deprived of their liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily.*

- ***Respect for privacy.***

People with diversabilities, regardless of place of residence or living arrangements, shall not be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy. Further, children/youth in care have the right to privacy during discussions with members of their families, subject to any court order made after the court has had an opportunity to consider the questions of access to the child/youth and during discussions with a lawyer.

- ***Health.***

People with diversabilities have the right to enjoy the highest standard of health without discrimination.

- ***Education.***

People with diversabilities can access general tertiary education, vocational training, adult education, and lifelong learning without discrimination and on an equal basis with others.

- ***Work and employment.***

People with diversabilities have the right to work on an equal basis with others.

- ***Protection and safety in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies.***

Protection and safety of people with diversabilities will be preserved in situations of risk and humanitarian emergency.

- ***Freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.***

No-one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. No-one shall be subjected without his or her free consent to medical or scientific experimentation.

- ***Freedom from exploitation, violence, and abuse.***

All appropriate legislative, administrative, social, educational, and other measures need to be taken to protect people with diversabilities from all forms of exploitation (including financial), violence, and abuse, including their gender-based aspects.

- ***Living independently and being included in the community.***

People with diversabilities have the same right as everyone else to live where and with whom they want.

- ***Adequate standard of living and social protection.***

People with diversabilities have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families. Further, children/youth in care have the right to be fed, clothed, and nurtured according to the community standards, and to be given the same quality of care as other children.

- ***Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure, and sport.***

People with diversabilities have access to services from those involved in the organization of recreational, tourism, leisure, and sporting activities. Further, children/youth in care have the right to participate in and receive the religious instruction of their choice, and to receive guidance and encouragement to maintain their cultural heritage. In addition, Indigenous children have the right to receive guidance, encouragement, and support to learn about and practice their Indigenous traditions, customs, language, and belong to their Indigenous communities.

NACL therefore ensures the following for the people and families/caregivers we support:

- *The information to make informed choices;*
- *Involvement in planning services and activities;*
- *Support to explore other options when someone changes their mind or makes a mistake;*
- *Involvement in exploring risks and developing plans to minimize those risks;*
- *Education regarding rights and responsibilities; and*
- *An annual review of those rights and responsibilities.*



Personal Information

When you're referred and accepted to a NACL service, we ask for basic information. However, when we begin the process of person-centered planning with you, we ask for more detailed information to understand your strengths and needs, so we can provide the best possible services.



Person Centered Planning

At NACL, we work with people on what is called a Person Centered Plan (PCP for short). This is a comprehensive, document that ensures services and supports reflect your needs, preferences, and dreams. Each individual will be able to fully participate in the planning process. NACL also encourages family members and support network to participate.

The plan covers many different areas of one's life. It is important the information you provide us is accurate and up-to-date, so we can adjust our services to meet changing needs.

We keep a copy of your plan on file, and will provide plan copies to you and others involved in developing it, with your consent.

Once you leave the program, we archive your file – but it is still available any time you want to look at it. Our commitment is to always keep the information secure and confidential, even after you leave the program.



Confidentiality

NACL upholds the rights of all people we support and their families/caregivers to privacy and confidentiality. To ensure you have the right to have information about you treated in confidence:

- *You, your family members, guardians, committees, or representatives will participate in intake meetings and be fully informed of your privacy rights and access to personal records, including:*
 - ✓ The use of **Form SD003-P (Authorization and Waiver of Confidentiality)**;
 - ✓ The use of release forms for obtaining third party information;
 - ✓ The process for accessing personal records; and
 - ✓ Complaint procedures regarding privacy concerns.
- *Whenever possible, you must provide the information about yourself.*
- *When shared by employees/Home Share Providers, only information which is deemed essential is to be given.*
- *Where employees, Home Share Providers, or volunteers provide the information, it is to be done with your consent, utilizing **Form SD003-P (Authorization and Waiver of Confidentiality)** unless due to health or impairment, you are unable to do so.*
- *All records, files, and notes pertaining to the people we support are the property of NACL, and are subject to its control. Furthermore, all records (electronic and paper) are securely stored, and retained and/or disposed of in accordance with applicable laws.*

If you have any concerns, speak to any NACL staff or the Program Supervisor.



Problem Solving

Person Centered Planning at NACL ensures a proactive approach in preventing and dealing with concerns or problems. Throughout the planning process we communicate directly with the people we support, their families/caregivers, staff, and home share providers. Any concerns are resolved with everyone involved.



Complaint Procedure

People NACL supports or their family members have the right to be heard. You should not wait to tell us if you are having a problem or have a complaint. It's every person's responsibility to tell us about it as soon as possible, and we will help in any way we can to solve the problem.

NOTE: There will be no retaliation or barrier to service if a person NACL supports has a complaint.

NACL encourages everyone to try to resolve a conflict in the following ways:

- *First, you or your family members/caregivers should try to talk to the Program Supervisor, contractor (if applicable), or a staff member you trust.*
- *If possible, use our special form **(SD015-P – Complaint Resolution Form)** to write out the complaint. If you can't write it, you can come to the front desk at NACL's Administration Office, and we'll make sure to find someone who can help.*
- *NACL will discuss the complaint with everyone involved within three (3) days (72 hours).*
- *Within 14 days of the complaint being filed, the staff heading the investigation will prepare a report about the incident, including the actions taken to resolve the complaint, and we'll book a meeting with with the person submitting the complaint to talk about it.*
- *If you don't like the results, you can tell us why, we'll look at it again, and we'll meet with you to discuss any possible changes to the decision about the complaint.*
- *If you still aren't happy with the results, the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors will give a decision in writing and meet with you within 14 days to discuss that decision.*
- *The Board of Directors is the highest level for complaint resolution at NACL.*
- *If you are still not satisfied with the Board of Directors' decision (if it goes to them), you or your family member/caregiver can contact Community Living BC (CLBC) or the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) – whichever one applies to you. We will give the contact information needed.*
- *If you are not satisfied with CLBC's decision, you or your family member/caregiver can contact the BC Government's Advocate for Service Quality. We will give the contact information needed.*



Health and Safety

Nanaimo Association for Community Living (NACL) is committed to promoting health and safety agency-wide. NACL ensures all people we support receive the highest quality of care, based on individual health and safety needs. NACL is also committed to a healthy and safe work environment for all employees and Home Share Providers.

In its effort to maintain this environment, NACL will:

- *Actively promote health and safety in the organization;*
- *Ensure the health and safety needs of all people NACL supports are addressed in Person Centered Plans;*
- *Endeavour to maintain safe working conditions;*
- *Develop safe service delivery and work procedures, providing the necessary training to staff or Home Share Provider/caregivers to successfully meet the health and safety needs of people NACL supports; and,*

- *Enforce compliance with safety procedures, directives, and relevant legislation by all employees/Home Share Providers, including:*
 - ✓ Federal and provincial legislation;
 - ✓ WorkSafeBC regulations;
 - ✓ Community Living BC (CLBC)/Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) standards of care;
 - ✓ The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) health and safety standards; and/or
 - ✓ The Collective Agreement (wherever NACL staff is involved).



Emergency Procedures

Home Share Providers are required to have personalized emergency plans in place for their home. It is a requirement that they are certified in first aid, and each home must be equipped with first aid and earthquake kits.



Abuse/Harassment Prevention

NACL strongly recognizes that people with diversabilities shall not be subjected to abuse or harassment. To ensure this, appropriate personnel policies, procedures, and practices have been developed, maintained, and adhered to by NACL employees/Home Share Providers.

NACL staff will not engage in any behavior detrimental to a person (people NACL supports, employees, visitors, etc.) which would be considered harassment or abusive.

Furthermore, NACL is committed to eliminating and/or minimizing the risk of abuse or harassment through the following practices:

Home Share Provider Requirements

NACL Home Share Providers must have:

- ✓ *A criminal record check;*
- ✓ *Equivalent of Emergency First Aid with CPR-C and AED.*

Training

Home Share Providers are offered training in:

- ✓ *Supporting Individual Valued Attachments (SIVA);*
- ✓ *Person Centered Thinking (PCT)/Person Centered Planning (PCP); and*
- ✓ *Ongoing in-service training specific to people's individual needs.*

Standards/Regulatory Compliance

NACL must remain in compliance with the various standards and regulations of providing community social services, including:

- ✓ *Community Living BC (CLBC) standards of care;*
- ✓ *The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF); and*

Who Abuses People with Diversabilities?

Abuse can happen to anyone – however, people with diversabilities may be more at risk of being abused than others. People with diversabilities are most often abused by people they know. This can be anyone with whom they have some contact, as a patient or client. People with diversabilities can also be harassed by another person NACL supports, or anywhere outside in the community such as restaurants, markets, hospitals, sports facilities, etc.

Identifying Abuse/Harassment

The following chart will help you determine whether you are being abused or not.

RELATIONSHIP FACTORS	HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP	UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP	ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP
Sharing feelings	You feel safe and strong enough to tell the caregiver how you really feel.	You feel awkward telling the caregiver how you really feel.	You are afraid to tell the caregiver how you really feel because you fear being put down or threatened.
Disagreements	You can have disagreements and still talk respectfully to each other. You resolve your disagreements.	Your disagreements often turn into fights.	You are afraid to disagree because you do not want to the caregiver to get angry and violent. The disagreement is an excuse for abuse.
Dealing with changes in circumstances (for example, if your condition changes or if there is something new in your life)	As circumstances change, you and the caregiver talk about the changes and agree on any changes that may be needed with your care.	The caregiver does not want to talk about how things are changing, or is slow to change when your circumstances change.	The caregiver refuses to adapt to changes, even if the care is no longer appropriate. Or, the caregiver makes changes without consulting or telling you in advance.

RELATIONSHIP FACTORS	HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP	UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP	ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP
Medication and adaptive devices (for example, canes, hearing aids, or other equipment to help with a disability)	You and the caregiver understand and follow your medication requirements. Your assistive aids are in good repair, and available to you when you need them.	Sometimes medications are missed or late. Sometimes adaptive devices are not kept in good condition, or are not available to you when needed.	The caregiver uses medication to try to control you, or the caregiver steals your medication. The caregiver threatens to deprive you of your medication or assistive aids.
Verbal abuse and violence	You and your caregiver do not say mean things to each other. There is no physical violence.	There have been a few incidents of putdowns, and mean or controlling behavior in your relationship. There is no pattern of violence.	The caregiver hurts you and does not stop even if you say it is hurting. The caregiver has injured you. The physical or sexual abuse and/or intimidation are increasing.

SOURCE: humanservices.alberta.ca, 2018

If you suspect that someone (including you) may have been abused or neglected, you must follow these steps:

- *Watch for the signs of abuse listed above.*
- *Tell someone about what is happening.*
 - ✓ If the person you tell does not seem to take you seriously, tell someone else, and keep telling people until you find a person who is helpful. The more people that know about the abuse, the more likely it is that someone will be able to help stop it.
- *Protect yourself from:*
 - ✓ **MEDICATION ABUSE:** In this case, notify your Home Share Manager or a trusted member of your support team, and get medical attention if needed.
 - ✓ **SOMEONE HURTING OR SCARING YOU:** Contact your Home share Manager and if you are in immediate danger, phone 911.

If a Person NACL Supports Has Been Abused...

NACL will:

- *Ensure the individual's immediate safety and well-being;*
- *Call the police if the individual's safety is at immediate risk;*
- *Complete a Critical Incident Report and contact CLBC within 24 hours;*
- *Explain the options available to the person; and*
- *Cooperate fully with any investigation by the police and/or CLBC, the Office of the Public Trustee, or the Regional Health Authority.*



Advocacy

NACL supports the rights of people with diversabilities and their families through three kinds of advocacy:

1. Personal Advocacy

We advocate on behalf of people with diversabilities and their families/caregivers to ensure they receive support.

2. Self-Advocacy

We support people with diversabilities and their families to enhance their own advocacy skills.

3. Systems Advocacy

We advocate for support and change within the systems that affect people with diversabilities.

ADVOCACY RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE NACL SUPPORTS

▪ **Community Living BC**

PHONE: 1-877-660-2522

WEBSITE: www.communitylivingbc.ca

E-MAIL: CLBCInfo@gov.bc.ca

VISIT: 7th Floor – Airport Square
1200 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6P 6G5

▪ **Inclusion BC**

CONTACT: Tina Dam, Community Inclusion Advocate

E-MAIL: advocacy@inclusionbc.org

WEBSITE: www.inclusionbc.org

PHONE: 1-844-488-4321

▪ **BC Self-Advocacy Organizations**

✓ Supporting Advocates in Leadership (SAL)

CONTACT: Eve Reinarz

E-MAIL: info@salnanaimo.ca

PHONE: (250) 753-1907

VISIT: 271 Pine Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 2B7

▪ **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)**

PHONE: 310-1234 (*24-Hour Helpline – no area code is required*)
To connect with one of the RCY's advocates, call (toll-free): 1-800-476-3933

WEBSITE: www.rcybc.ca

VISIT: Suite 400 – 1019 Wharf Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2Y9



Quality Assurance

We at NACL ensure quality services by maintaining conformance to the following standards:

- *CARF's Aspire to Excellence, Quality Individualized Services and Supports, and Employment and Community Services standards;*
- *CLBC's and MCFD's standards of care; and*
- *Licensed group homes meet the standards of the Community Care Facilities Licensing.*

This includes a commitment to continuous quality improvement, which is reported annually in our Performance Review on NACL's website. This report outlines the achievements of the year and the plans for improvement in the coming year.



Suggestions and Feedback

We welcome your suggestions and feedback about the services we provide. You can give this in many ways:

- *Tell your Home Share Provider about it.*
- *Contact your Home Share Manager.*
- *As part of our overall commitment to improving our services, we ask you to complete a survey once a year about how satisfied you are with the services you are accessing. There is a different survey for each program, so you may receive more than one.*



Accessibility

NACL promotes accessibility and works to remove barriers. If you face a barrier to accessing our services or the community, please contact your Home Share Manager.

PART 3: Home Share Program

NACL's Home Share Program provides a residential option for adults who prefer a smaller or more family-based living environment. Services are provided by contracted Home Share Providers/Caregivers. They share the living space and domestic responsibilities, and provide whatever level of support is appropriate to an individual's needs. This may include:

- *Recreational support;*
- *Community participation;*
- *Life and home skill development; and/or*
- *Personal or health care and development.*

Home sharing is provided in individual homes in the community. Support is provided up to 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, depending on the needs of the individual and the support required.

Our Home Share Team focuses on optimizing independence, self-determination, and choice – while ensuring safety. Therefore, we:

- *Recruit and screen community members who provide services under contract to NACL;*
- *Work with both individuals and Home Share Providers/Caregivers to find the best possible match;*
- *Provide training and support to make it a sustainable placement;*
- *Promote long-lasting relationships between individuals and Home Share Providers/Caregivers, and the development of a strong network of support that includes the individual's family, the Home Share Provider's/Caregivers' family, and the community; and*
- *Work to honor the different values and backgrounds of individuals and families when matching individuals with Home Share Providers/Caregivers, and providing holistic support.*



How do I access the program?

Referrals to all programs are accepted through Community Living British Columbia (CLBC). Individuals with independent funding may self-refer. Upon receipt of a referral from CLBC, the following process will be followed by the appropriate/designated NACL management staff:

- *Your referral form will be reviewed, and management staff will determine NACL's ability to meet your needs.*
- *We are committed to supporting all eligible individuals; however, at times we may not have a suitable placement.*
- *Should we be unable to serve you, a written confirmation will be forwarded to the referring body, outlining the rationale for the decision.*
- *If you choose not to accept our service, we will provide information on potential alternate resources.*

Note: CLBC holds the waitlist for our Home Share services – and they will determine who will be referred.

This is a time for you to learn more about our services, and for us to learn more about you and your support needs. During this time, we will review potential approved Home Share Providers/Caregivers. Finding a suitable match involves considering factors such as your preferences, interests, lifestyle, and family background.

We may need to recruit a new caregiver, or assess someone referred by you.

We will then begin the Person Centered Planning process. This includes:

- *Meeting with you and your family to explain our services and policies;*
- *Providing an orientation to the Home Share Program;*
- *Completing relevant consent forms;*
- *Completing an All About Me form;*
- *Gathering information about your wishes and various support needs; and*
- *Identifying personal goals.*

Once we feel we have a good match, we will share the Home Study Report with you and components of your Person Centered Plan with the potential Home Share Provider. If you both feel comfortable proceeding, we will then book an initial meeting at the home. During this process we will continue to look at other options to provide you the opportunity for choice.

If the match seems good to both parties, we will begin discussion plans for this transition.

The transition phase is an opportunity for everyone to get to know each other, work out how they will live together and plan for the move.

The transition phase may move quickly or take several months, depending on the individuals involved.

During this phase, we provide:

- *Support for planning the logistics and timing of the move for the individuals and caregivers to spend trial periods of time together and get to know the neighborhood.*
- *Any training required for the caregiver, depending on the individual they are living with and supporting, as they may also have specific training related to those individuals' needs.*
- *Arrangements for preparations or adaptations required for the home.*
- *Close monitoring of the new arrangement for several months and reporting it to CLBC, which funds the program.*



Who pays for the services offered?

Most individuals in home sharing arrangements receive disability benefits from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

Base amount from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, includes:

- *Amount allotted to the Home Share Provider for “Shelter:” \$716.13*
- *Amount allotted to the Person Served for “Comfort Allowance”*

What does “Shelter” cover?

- *Room*
- *Food*
- *Hydro*
- *Access to television entertainment*
- *Telephone access (if a cell phone is not used a landline would be necessary)*
- *Heat*
- *Transportation to important appointments*
- *Internet*

What does “Comfort Allowance” cover?

- *Clothes*
- *Hygiene products*
- *Extracurricular activities (swimming, etc.)*
- *Gifts for family and friends*
- *Personal cell phone*
- *HandyDart tickets*
- *Long distances charges for telephone use*



Who takes care of my finances?

If you require any support with your banking, we expect that your care provider will maintain accurate documentation of financial transactions and activities. This will be outlined in your Person Centered Plan.



Who provides support with transportation?

It is the responsibility of the Home Share Providers/Caregivers to support you in using public transportation, including HandyDart. Home Share Providers/Caregivers may also transport you in their own vehicles and are expected to drive with due care, and adhere to all requirements of the Motor Vehicle Act. They are also responsible for maintaining their vehicle and carrying adequate insurance.



Respite Services in a Home Share

Respite is a temporary, short-term arrangement provided when Home Share Providers/Caregivers or People NACL supports require a break. NACL encourages Home Share Providers to access respite to maintain and support the arrangement on an ongoing basis.



What if I have any medical concerns?

Through the Person Centered Planning stage, medical concerns would be outlined, such as:

- *Seizures, allergies, dysphagia, etc.;*
- *Communicable disease(s) such as HIV, Hepatitis B/C, Tuberculosis, etc.; and/or*
- *Safety concerns such as self-injury, injury to others, ingesting foreign objects, violent outbursts;*
- *Health care plan.*

Your support team will consult with your doctor, dentist, or a medical professional from the Health Services for Community Living (HSCL) team (Registered Nurse, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Speech Therapist, Dietician, or Dental Hygienist) to help you stay healthy.

Medications

When living in Home Share, we encourage individuals to arrange with the pharmacist to have all the medications prescribed to you by your doctor blister-packed with a label attached that has your name, medication name, and times to be given. Your Home Share Provider can support you with this, if needed.

Notes: All medications required will be clearly outlined in one's Person Centered Plan.

PRN Medications

All PRN medications must be accompanied by a Health Care Plan or Protocol from the Health Services for Community Living Nurse (HSCL) under the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA).

Notes: All medications required will be clearly outlined in one's Person Centered Plan.

Seizures

- If you have seizures, a protocol will need to be in place by Health Services for Community Living (HSCL).
- If you take a PRN seizure medication, this will be outlined in your Health Care Plan.

Wheelchairs/Walkers/Special Equipment

If you use any adaptive equipment, we will support you to ensure it is all maintained as needed.

Personal Care

Home Share Providers can assist you with your personal care as needed and outlined in your Person Centered Plan.

In the event of a serious injury, operation, or time away from the home...

Prior to returning, protocols may need to be in place regarding adaptive equipment, lifts, and transfers.

EXIT Leaving Home Share Services

Sometimes you might want to change your living arrangement:

- *It hasn't worked out and you are looking for a different Home Share;*
- *Your needs can be better met by another service or agency;*
- *You move out of our service area;*
- *Continuous unsuitable conduct is happening that can be harmful to you or others; and/or*
- *You need or want a different service.*

Whatever the reason, we are here to help support your transition to a new living arrangement. We prepare a detailed **Exit Summary** and document your experience. We will share this with the new service provider as requested, and work with you, other agencies and programs to plan for your transition.



Questions or Comments?

If you have any questions or comments about our home sharing program, please contact our Senior Home Share Manager at any time:

Brianna Otto
(250) 741-0224, ext. 243
brianna.otto@nanaimoacl.org

We look forward to working with you!



NACL

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