

S-475 HOST FAMILY SERVICES



Version 2 effective November 19, 2009

(previously RF-01)

Policy

This service is one of the residential support options offered to mentally handicapped adults. Persons benefiting from this service are seeking a "home" giving them an opportunity to develop their independence or simply to live in a welcoming environment that provides a "family" atmosphere.

A host family provides personalized services. Mentally handicapped persons are accompanied by the same individuals each day and develop significant bonds with them. Generally, those relationships lead to friendship and mutual respect that increase the mentally handicapped person's well-being.

We also believe that mentally handicapped persons can contribute, through their strengths and interests, to the personal development of host families and those close to them. By developing stable and significant relationships, adults are likely to feel more confident and comfortable showing their strengths and abilities.

This sharing allows mentally handicapped persons to take part in activities in their "home" and thus to take their place as full citizens in their community.

Procedure

General responsibilities of the Host families and Valoris

1) Support

Develop, coordinate and apply an individual plan for the adult to help him make the most of his potential.

Facilitate contacts with the adult and his family as needed and support the family's participation in planning the individual plan for the person receiving services.

2) Supervision

Monitor on a monthly basis the use of the client's personal funds.

3) Roles and responsibilities shared by the Host families and Valoris

- Valoris will supply a furnished room except when the adult wishes to use his own furniture.
- Ensure the adult has nutritious meals taking into consideration any particular needs such as allergies, health problems, ...
- Ascertain the adult's intimacy and that he feels at home (having his own room and being allowed to freely circulate in the house).

- Assist and support the adult in his search for employment, in taking part in day activities providing him opportunities to interact with the community, in his daily activities and accompany him or provide a means to attend medical appointments.
- Organize visits with the adult's friends and family members, when called for.
- Provide opportunities to enlarge the adult's social network by helping him participate in the community life.

4) Interacting with the client

Rights and responsibilities

We strongly encourage the participation of the adult's family in selecting the placement, taking part in the preliminary planning and in elaborating a life plan for the adult (ex.: visits, communication, decisions).

5) Financial Compensation

A per diem between \$40 and \$65 will be attributed to the host family subject to the adult's needs.

The needs of the adult will be evaluated by the worker in charge of his file. The decision setting the per diem will be the supervisor's.

Host family services reflect an approach to services based on enriching social roles and integration into the community.

Definitions

Host family: A family consisting of one or more persons in which a service agency places a person with an intellectual disability who has no relationship with this family, so that this person resides there and receives care, support and supervision for which the host families will be paid by the service agency.