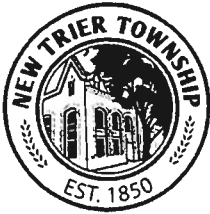




AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Cover Page			
NAME OF AGENCY Our House Communities, Inc.			
CONTACT PERSON George Craven, Board President			
ADDRESS 370 Chestnut Street			
CITY Winnetka	STATE IL	ZIP 60093	
PHONE 847-962-3277	FAX		
E-MAIL gcraven@mayerbrown.com			
WEB www.ourhousecommunities.org			
NO. OF YEARS IN EXISTENCE 7.5	TOTAL AGENCY FUNDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSED YEAR \$ 35,000		
PROGRAMS REQUESTING FUNDING	AMOUNT RECEIVED LAST YEAR	\$ AMOUNT FOR PROPOSED YEAR	FUNDED BY TOWNSHIP SINCE? (Estimate of Year OK)
1. Residence Program & Administration	\$30,000	\$35,000	2017
2. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____
3. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____
4. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	_____



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

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Eligibility Criteria For Funding

New Trier Township General Statement of Policy:

- **Each agency/program requesting funding from the Township will be referred to either the Agency Oversight Committee, the Mental Health Committee, or the Money Follows the Person Committee of the Township. Those committees will make funding and agency/program recommendations to the New Trier Township Board of Trustees. You will be notified of their final decisions sometime in the spring.**
- Agencies considered for funding should have been in existence for one year after receiving their not-for profit status from the State of Illinois and have been providing services to the community during that time.
- No agency with the ability to tax or conduct referendums will receive Township funding.

In order to be eligible for funding an agency must meet the following minimum requirements:

- **Area Served** - While an agency may serve areas other than New Trier Township, its programs must serve residents of New Trier Township.
- **Proportion of Township Residents Served**- For agencies serving more than New Trier Township, the amount of funding requested shall take into consideration the proportion of the agency's service rendered to residents of New Trier Township.
- **Non-Profit** - Funded agencies must be 501 (c) (3) not-for-profits.
- **Needs**- The need for the service must be demonstrated.
- **Standards** - An agency requesting funding must have at least one full-time paid staff person, or its equivalent; the credentials of the applicant's staff shall meet professional standards, commensurate with the responsibilities involved.
- **Employment Practices** - The agency must be an equal opportunity employer.
- **Articles of Incorporation** - Submit a copy, as amended, if changed in the last 12 months.
- **Bylaws** - Submit a copy, as amended, if changed in the last 12 months.
- **Use of Funds** - Funds must be used as specified in the grant application and as approved by the Township. Changes must be cleared with the Township.
- **Accessibility** - *All services must be available to clients with disabilities and the agency must be able to deliver services from a site that is ADA accessible. If not, please explain.*



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING Fiscal Year 2022-2023

- **Accountability** - The agency shall maintain communication with the assigned advisory committee liaison, who must be allowed to attend board meetings upon request. The agency may dismiss the person from a board meeting if they convene into Executive Session. The agency shall provide meeting minutes to the liaison upon request.
 - **Financial** - *All agencies with budgets of greater than \$300,000 must have an annual audit performed by an independent CPA. Those agencies with a budget of \$300,000 or less must submit to the Township a copy of form AG990 that is sent to the Attorney General's Office. The Township reserves the right to request an audit be performed for agencies with budgets of \$300,000 or less.*
 - **Absence of Conflicts of Interest** – The agency certifies, to the best of its knowledge, information, and belief, that it has no current relationship or involvement with any New Trier Township Trustee, Employee, or Committee Member which the Agency reasonably believes could either favorably or unfavorably influence the Township's possible grant of the Agency's funding request.
YES _____
NO _____ - **If no, please explain.**

The Mission of New Trier Township is to provide leadership, advocacy and resources to benefit the physical, mental, and social well-being of Township residents.

Guiding Principles of New Trier Township

The following principles guide the Board and Staff's action as we work together to fulfill our mission:

- The Township's primary role is to identify and address the needs of our community.
- Our efforts are to create new energetic ideas and programs while maintaining existing programs which are relevant and effective.
- Our intent is to primarily support, given due diligence and fiscal accountability, programs providing services to our neighbors; including youth programs; senior citizen supports; aid to persons with disabilities, food, shelter and financial and emotional emergency relief for people in need.
- We seek opportunities to meet community needs by providing assistance directly to individuals as well as indirectly, through third-party sources/providers.
- The Township will pursue coalition-building with other community entities and advocate on behalf of Township residents.
- We believe that people have the freedom to choose where they receive services and assistance, including those the Township provides and supports.



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Financial Support Issues

1. The Township prefers to support organizations that have a demonstrated need for financial support and funding. While we do not intend to penalize those organizations that are highly successful fundraisers, we do have to recognize need as a legitimate funding criteria. Therefore organizations that have a reserve level in excess of one year's budget will be a reduced priority for funding (excluding a true endowment). This will be ascertained by a review of the agency audit. Reserve levels are usually calculated by subtracting current liabilities from current assets and comparing it to the total agency budget. However, the Township may examine other financial criteria, including long-term debt, endowment, and other funds.
2. The Township does not fund capital or infrastructure projects such as land or building acquisition and development, or the creation or support of capital or reserve or endowment funds.
3. The Township does not support programs that are primarily arts/education, recreation or environmental related services, though they may be a component of a broader service designed to meet more basic human and social service needs consistent with our priorities listed above.
4. A Township funded program must serve all of New Trier Township, or be part of a group of similar agencies designed to serve the entire Township.
5. The Township prefers to support community-based agencies; meaning those that are located in our community or nearby and exist primarily to serve people in those communities. National and international organizations, even those located in New Trier Township, are not necessarily disqualified, but must demonstrate a substantial impact on our communities.
6. Agencies requesting funding from New Trier Township should serve a significant number of Township residents, or generate substantial costs in serving our residents.
7. Township funding is program specific, but there are no restrictions in how those funds are used within the program. They are meant to support and provide access to services for New Trier Township clients.



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Other Certification Issues

Please mark yes, no, or other as appropriate next to each statement. If no, or other, please explain. Supporting documents may be requested at a future date and must be supplied upon request.

YES NO OTHER (PLEASE EXPLAIN)

- Agency maintains a personnel policy manual
- Agency has a non-discrimination policy
- Agency has a sexual harassment policy
- Agency has a grievance procedure
- Agency has a Strategic Plan
Covers years _____
- Agency produces an Annual Report
Most recent report covers period _____
- Agency has an effective fiscal management system in place
- Audit or AG990 completed and copy provided for most recent fiscal year
- Agency maintains liability insurance coverage
Amount of coverage \$500,000 _____
Name of insurer Bankers Standard Insurance Company
Effective dates of coverage 12/24/2021 to 12/24/2022
- Agency pays all state and federal payroll taxes



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

YES NO OTHER (PLEASE EXPLAIN)

Agency has by-laws in place
Date last amended/accepted 2016

Agency is accredited by recognized accreditation organization (where appropriate)
Date of most recent accreditation _____
Accreditation Organization _____

Agency's board serves without compensation
Number of board members 6
Number of Board vacancies _____
List board sub-committees Recruitment + Membership,

Community Outreach, Fundraising
Schedule of board meetings Second Monday of JANUARY, MARCH, MAY,
July, September and November

Agency has Auxiliary or other Advisory/Governing Board. If so, please explain:

Agency provides staff with opportunities for training and personal development

Agency has filed its annual report with the Illinois Attorney General
July 22, 2022

Agency has filed its annual report with the Illinois Secretary of State
September 28, 2021
Federal Tax ID # 81-0830660

We certify that we meet all the eligibility criteria for funding and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and agree to comply with all requirements of the program and funder if we are awarded and accept funding. Furthermore, our Board has been advised of the Eligibility Criteria and approved our signing of this document.

Agency Director Name Susan STRAND

Signature

Date: 9/8/22

Board President Name GEORGE CRAVEN

Signature

Date: 9/8/22



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Organizational Profile

(A) The Organizational Profile is part of the New Trier Township Application For Funding; and (B) It is the Agency's responsibility to keep the Organizational Profile information current each year and provide New Trier Township with further information on an ongoing basis if there are any significant changes, such as to the mission, organization, board requirements, and/or other changes.

(1) Briefly summarize the agency's mission, history, services, and organizational structure. Have these changed significantly over the lifespan of the organization? (Please attach a current organizational chart, if available.)

Mission

The mission of Our House Communities (OHC or Our House) is to support individuals with varying abilities as they seek lifelong personal growth, including living independently, engaging in their community and controlling their own lives.

History

OHC is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation committed to creating and supporting a variety of affordable community-based residences for adults with developmental disabilities in New Trier Township. The agency was formed by a group of twelve families whose adult children participate in programs at Our Place of New Trier Township. The families came together in 2015 to develop community-based housing through the New Futures Initiative offered by Center for Independent Futures. Throughout the course of the project, the families concluded that their adult children required 24-hour support in a community setting and that state programs and/or funding for that level and type of care is not available to them. The families recognized that they would have to develop solutions with costly service structures and find ways to pay for these residences with private funding. Additionally, the families acknowledged that their home community, where their adult children work, socialize and have friends, and where they are committed to remain, is an expensive real estate market.

The group set a goal to support all of the founding families and to reach out to other interested families seeking community-based residences. New Trier Township awarded the agency an incubator grant in December 2016 to implement its plan of opening residences. The families opened their first house in Wilmette in May of 2017, within five months of receiving the grant. Four Township residents lived in the house for the first two years. One of the original residents who was with us for two years moved out to be closer to his job in Evanston. We interviewed several candidates for the open room, but we were not the right fit for their expectations and needs. And then when Covid came, no one was interested in making a commitment because of safety concerns.



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

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Organizational Structure

The Our House organizational structure is evolving as the agency plans for additional houses. The Program Manager directly manages the house and reports to the families, including three officers of the Board. The Board meets every other month.

Services

Our House services include working with families to create appropriate housing for their adult children so that they can live with compatible housemates; developing person-centered plans for the individual residents; recruiting and training staff and volunteers to support the housemates; negotiating lease arrangements with real estate investors and landlords; and ensuring the smooth operation of the residences.

(2) Briefly summarize the role of the board and the requirements for serving on it. What role does the board play in the administration and operation of your organization and what is the desired size of a full and active board?

The Board of Directors is responsible for determining the mission, vision and values of the agency.

Requirements for serving on the board include a commitment to providing affordable, person-centered housing in the community for adults with developmental disabilities. OHC also seeks a balance of managerial, professional and organizational skills in the composition of the board.

The board is actively involved in setting policies for the agency, fundraising and ensuring compliance with government requirements. It is not involved in day-to-day administration and operations. Over time OHC envisions possible expansion of the board with the inclusion of interested, committed community members with community connections and management experience. Currently six members serve on the board. All current board members have a family member with a developmental disability. Three board members have a family member who is residing in the first house. Two new members joined the board in the last six months. Both are very committed to opening a new residence.



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

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Agency/Program Funding Request Information

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- (1) Describe the services provided by this program, eligibility requirements, and the target population.

Services Provided

Our House Communities assists families and individuals with developmental disabilities in creating affordable, supported, community-based housing in New Trier Township. Because we follow a person-centered planning approach, there is no one model for housing and residences will reflect the needs of the housemates. The first house is a family style home, in the center of town, with full-time staff from 6:00 p.m. till 9:00 a.m. every weekday and 24-hour coverage on weekends. Until the disruption caused by the pandemic, the housemates worked and attended programs in the community during the day on weekdays.

Three young men live in the first house in Wilmette, with a live-in House Manager. The house opened in May 2017. It has operated for five years with no staff turnover. The house is operated as an intentional community, with the individuals sharing their lives and supporting each other in attaining their personal goals. The House Manager is a "member of the family" and has been very successful in helping to create a family-style home, facilitating the housemates in becoming more independent and supporting their activities in the community. Two program leaders from Our Place, who know the housemates well, provide part-time support three days per week when the House Manager is off. The families are directly involved in managing the house to ensure that their sons' interests and needs are met. One of the housemates has a job in the community and all continue to attend programs at Our Place, which is two blocks from the house. All say they are very happy in their home.

The house was purchased by an LLC formed by one of the families. The LLC has a direct lease with each resident and charges below market rent. All of the families receive Home Based Services (HBS) funding. Those funds can be used to pay for personal service workers. Two of the families have registered the House Manager as a personal service worker for their sons. The families decide how many hours they will bill for the House Manager and how many hours to bill for their time and for other caregivers. The total amount for HBS is around \$30,200 per year for 2022, which is not enough funding to cover the housing costs of \$48,381 per person per year, plus the cost for daytime programs, transportation and recreation, which for these individuals can be as high as \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year per person.

Eligibility Requirements

The only eligibility requirements for OHC are that members have a developmental disability and are over the age of 22. In establishing households, housemates determine who they want to live with based on compatibility and a shared vision of how the house will be staffed and structured.



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Target Population

The target population is adults with developmental disabilities who want to live in community-based residences in the Township.

- (2) How does this program fit in with one or more of the priorities identified by New Trier Township in its strategic plan? Please explain.

New Trier Township is committed to improving life for residents with developmental disabilities and has been a major supporter of programs located in the Township. Our House directly addresses the needs of persons with developmental disabilities for affordable housing in the Township as it develops and operates residences that follow the principles of person-centered planning and community integration. This enables adult residents with developmental disabilities to age in place in the community where they live, work, socialize and have friends.

Please check each priority you feel the program addresses. (Most programs will address only one or two priorities.)

See our website at www.newtriertownship.com for more information.

Aging in Place

Low Income Families

Youth Services

Persons with Disabilities

Other _____

NEED

- (3) Describe the need and demand for this program in the community and justify that it deserves investment of Township funding. You may include both data and examples of individual clients.

Illinois presents challenges for adults with developmental disabilities who want to live independently in their community. The state still favors institutional placements, where money goes to the institution rather than the person. Agencies that provide Community Based Integrated Living Arrangements (CILAs) accept individuals only after they have received state funding; the waiting lists both to get CILA funding and to find a spot in a CILA house are extremely long. Should individuals receive CILA funding, openings are often not close to the community where the individual lives, works and/or has social networks. Furthermore, the day programs are usually in sheltered workshops, none of which are in the Township. At this time, CILA funding is essentially non-existent in Illinois for the thousands on the waiting list. Several OHC families have received CILA award letters but, even before the pandemic, they could not find a placement. Since the onset of the pandemic, CILA placements have been substantially shut down.

The prospects for adults with developmental disabilities to receive services and funding from the state are grim. The most recent data (for 2019) show that statewide 72% of individuals with a developmental disability live at home with a family caregiver. 24% of those caregivers are over the



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING Fiscal Year 2022-2023

age of 60. (www.stateofthestates.org/wp-content/uploads/documents/Illinois.pdf) Recently released data from the Illinois Department of Human Services show that (as of 8/12/22) 5,825 adults are waiting for residential funding for either 24 hour care or less than 24 hour care. (<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=56036>). State licensed programs, including CILAs, exclude families from participating in planning their children's future and remaining involved in their lives. Many Our House families have Home-Based Services funding, which can be used towards payment for personal support workers for supportive services and certain day programs, but not for housing or food. This funding level does not cover the extensive needs of many of our adults with developmental disabilities so families are still paying out of pocket for additional services and programs, such as Our Place.

We recently conducted a survey of families of the participants at Our Place regarding their plans and expectations, if any, for independent living for their son or daughter. 28 of the 42 respondents said they were not satisfied with the current housing options available in Illinois for their adult children with disabilities. An additional 13 responded that they were not confident about the Illinois options for housing. In addition, 20 of the 42 respondents said they are "not at all" comfortable placing their trust in Illinois licensed agencies to provide safe and supportive care for their son or daughter. An additional 13 said they were only a little comfortable. (For more on the survey, see item 17 below)

Our House families decided that they could not wait for a state solution or state funding to help their adult children live independently in their home community. They also thought they could provide better options by developing local, affordable housing that allows adults with disabilities to keep their jobs, volunteer positions, friends and connections in their home community.

Our cost of service for each resident will be approximately \$48,381 this year. This is significantly lower than the COVID enhanced state funding of \$109,325 for a CILA placement in a three bed house as of June 30, 2021 (See "CILA Housing Capacity and Average Rates" at <https://www.dhs.il.us/page.aspx?item=125959>) and dramatically lower than the state support of over \$286,000 per person for an institutional placement. (Annual Cost of Care By Residential Setting FY2019 at (www.stateofthestates.org/wp-content/uploads/documents/Illinois.pdf)). However, private payment of \$48,381 per year is still a financial stretch for current and potential housemates. (In 2021 the actual out of pocket cost to our families was reduced to about \$2,000 per month because of the federal employee retention tax credit related to COVID relief. That credit terminated September 30, 2021, so it was not available in the fourth quarter of 2021 or in 2022. After repeal of the employee retention tax credit our monthly out of pocket cost per family reverted to approximately \$3,500.

The need for support is twofold: Our House needs to raise funds to make housing affordable for current families and for families who want to move into new houses and the agency also needs funds to build capacity to support the management, administrative and fundraising costs associated with operating an agency with multiple residences. Currently all administrative or fundraising tasks are performed by parents of the residents or volunteers.



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- (4) Are you able to meet the full demand for this service or is there a waiting list? What new or unmet needs do you see in the community or for the clients served in this program?

OHC is not able to meet the full demand for community-based residences, even among its original family members. Additionally, there are many families who have expressed an interest in creating residences for their young adults in the next five years. As individuals continue to age in their family home, the need for community housing will increase.

Most families cannot assume the financial burden of paying for housing for their adult child, in addition to the cost of day programs, transportation and community activities. Families also recognize that they will have to provide this level of support for many years, throughout the life of their dependent, while also funding their own retirement. Because of this, OHC's goal is to build an organization that can create community connections for volunteer staffing and financial contributions. Even long-established agencies that receive state funding rely on grants and donations to cover 20-30% of the total cost of their programs.

Because of the need to insure housemate compatibility, we do not have a waiting list.

CAPACITY

- (5) Demonstrate that the program has the vision, personnel, and skills to successfully carry out the program and achieve its goals, objectives and performance measures.

The board has strongly endorsed the need for Our House to succeed and to grow. They hope to reach out to new families seeking housing. Our House has established a Fundraising Committee, Community Outreach Committee and Membership/Recruitment Committee to ensure that services will be provided and the agency will be sustained.

Members have reached out to others to expand the group of potential housemates with presentations to other family groups, tours of the first house, information sessions and open houses

The first house families established agreements, forms, procedures and plans which can be replicated when setting up additional residences. The first house is operating smoothly and has a strong house manager in place. This can serve as a model both for other Our House families and for other families seeking affordable, person-centered residences in the community.



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SERVICE STATISTICS/DEMOGRAPHICS

(6) Who is being served by this program? Please provide a statistical breakdown of the number of clients served, the total units of service delivered, and costs per unit of service by filling in the chart below. Please state and define your unit of service for this program. To calculate cost per unit of service, divide the total number of units of service into the total budget for the program. (Suggestions for the appropriate unit of service are included in the proposal in the directions. For some programs you may wish to calculate cost per unit of service in more than one manner.)

Unit of service definition –

SERVICE STATISTICS – Please indicate fiscal year dates for each column

PLEASE INDICATE FISCAL YEAR/DATES IN EACH COLUMN	Prior Year 2021	Present Year 2022	Proposed Year 2023
Number of persons served (unduplicated count)	3	3	12
Number of units of service	3	3	4
Cost per unit of service	\$46,179	\$48,381	\$37,561

(7) What are the demographics of New Trier clients served in the prior year? (breakdown by community).

Residents – Wilmette 3

(8) Total from New Trier Township (unduplicated).

Residents - 3

(9) New Trier Township clients are what % of total?

Residents – 100%



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(10) Units of Service to New Trier clients.

3 residents May 1, 2019 to present

(11) Units of Service to NTT clients are what % of total

100%

(12) New Trier clients age breakdown

27-35

OUTCOMES/EVALUATION

(13) What outcomes did you achieve for your clients in the prior year? Results should be client-outcome based, specify a target level of achievement, the measurement tool that was used, the rationale for setting the target at a certain level, and a timeframe for accomplishment. Detail any changes made in the program as a result of these outcome results.

We expect measurable improvement for each housemate in Independent Living Skills and improvement in Social/Emotional Learning Skills each year.

Three of the original housemates had never lived away from home before. All four original housemates had varying levels of competence in Independent Living Skills and Emotion Management so their personal goals differed, as did the family expectations. Each housemate worked with the House Manager to set an individualized plan and the goals of the plan were incorporated into the daily routine for each participant. The House Manager also met with the CAU Case Managers supporting the individuals receiving Home Based Services to assist in setting goals and ensuring that those goals were met.

Consistent with the goal of a family style home, the housemates and House Manager began holding family meetings and individual check-ins to discuss goals and concerns. The House Manager continued to communicate with families to report progress and set new goals and to provide input for the meetings with the CAU Case Managers.

Additionally, all housemates get themselves up, showered, fed and out of the house daily to meet their schedules. All of them enter their outside commitments on the house calendar and communicate their schedule to the House Manager and housemates. They have learned how to share the common space, decide which movies or TV programs to watch together, let others



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know if something is bothering them and how to be separate from the group if that is their preference. They have gelled as a group and support each other, especially when one is experiencing a challenge.

- (14) What results are you committed to achieving in the present year? (If outcomes are the same as above, simply state that we hope to improve upon the past year's results)

We hope to improve upon the past year's results.

- (15) Are there any other program effectiveness/evaluation measures you think are important, such as customer/client satisfaction surveys, quality of service measures, or other indicators? Please describe.

The families meet regularly to discuss progress and concerns. Each family has established a strong relationship with the House Manager and communicates with her independently.

CHANGES/CHALLENGES

- (16) What changes or challenges (legal, socio-economic, demographic, financial, political or other) did the agency, program, and clients face in the prior year? How did you respond? What challenges or changes do you anticipate in the present year? (If changes/challenges were the same for all programs, do not repeat).

The agency faces a challenge of building capacity to open additional houses in the community. Finding the combination of compatible housemates whose families are both willing to take the risk of launching their adult children with disabilities in an untested new community and who are able to make a long term financial commitment to pay a share of expenses for staff, rent and household needs has proven to be a considerable challenge. The challenge is made more difficult by the need to time bringing together the compatible housemates, willing and able families, house staff, and a suitable house all at once.



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RECOMMENDATION RESPONSES

(17) How did you respond to the recommendations made by New Trier Township, if any? Please describe in detail. (These are contained in the funding letter you received last April).

The Township recommended that filling the vacancy in our house for a fourth housemate be our highest priority.

Now that potential roommates at our current house have been vaccinated for COVID, we are once again considering applicants for the fourth room at that house. We made arrangements with two young men (who are also participants at Our Place) and their families for the young men to spend one night a week at our house for several weeks to see if they are comfortable with the arrangements and would be a good fit. Both young men were familiar with the house as they participated in weekly dinners there before COVID. One young man spent two nights at the house before deciding he was not ready to move in permanently. The other visited the house with his parents but told his parents he is not ready to move away from them. In an effort to find other candidates to live in our current house and to find families interested in creating more housing for adults with disabilities in our community, Our House Communities this summer conducted a survey of the approximately 70 families with a son or daughter currently participating in Our Place.

Survey Overview:

The response rate was high, with 42 respondents. This represents close to 60% of current Our Place families. Other factors are promising for moving forward to provide housing options in our community:

- Close to two-thirds of respondents are interested in creating housing options in our community, and many are ready to move within the next few years.
- Families are not satisfied with the current state options and are not comfortable depending on state-licensed agencies to provide safe and supportive housing.
- The highest priority for families is safety with a high quality of life second.
- Families seek a high level of staff support including overnight coverage.
- A high number of families say it's very important for their adult to be able to continue working, to be close to family, and to continue to participate at Our Place.
- Sustainability of the organization and housing is very important.
- There is low awareness of the current Our House Communities house and yet that model has many of the attributes families are seeking.
- Many families are interested in learning more and in joining a start-up group to arrange housing.



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1. There is high interest in the concept of creating housing options in our community.

- a. 34 of 42 respondents see their son or daughter living outside their home in the future.
- b. 29 respondents are extremely interested in developing community options and an additional 7 respondents say they are somewhat interested.
- c. The main drivers of this interest in community housing are more rich experiences for their son or daughter (21 of 42), the age of the parents (20 of 42) and the age of the child (19 of 42)
- d. 17 respondents are willing to work with other families to explore options with an additional 24 who are not sure but would be interested in learning more
- e. 20 respondents would join a start-up group, assuming administration responsibilities, and an additional 20 are not sure but are interested in learning more

2. Confidence in the State to address this issue is low.

- a. 28 of 42 respondents are not satisfied with current housing options in Illinois and an additional 13 are not sure
- b. 20 of the 42 are "Not At All" comfortable placing their trust in Illinois licensed agencies to provide safe and supportive care and an additional 13 are only a little comfortable
- c. 20 of the 42 have Home Based Waiver Funding, 4 have CILA funding and are waiting for a placement and 3 are currently living in CILAs

3. The Supports and Important Attributes parents seek in community housing are consistent across two measures, both a ranking of six attributes and an importance assessment of many attributes.

- a. 23 of the 42 respondents want staff coverage in the evenings, overnight, mornings and weekends; 12 want 24/7 coverage; 2 each want evening or morning coverage seek partial support or occasional check-ins;
- b. Families seek other supports at a high level, including 27 families wanting assistance with schedules and organization; 24 wanting help with learning basic routines of daily living and 30 seeking transportation to work, activities and programs.
- c. In ranking the most important values, Safety ranks first; Quality of life is second; sustainability after the parents can no longer provide is third; Case Management is fourth, and transportation is fifth.

4. Individual Attributes:

- a. 100% of families say safety is very important
- b. 38 of 42 say a full life with interesting activities is very important
- c. On the issue of being in the community versus on a campus, 21 say being in the community is very important, 15 say somewhat important, and 6 are neutral
- d. Relative to Our Place, 23 say it is very important for their adult to continue at Our Place and 17 say somewhat important. A lower number feel it is important for the house to be near Our Place with 14 saying it is very important and 22 saying somewhat important.
- e. Regarding location, being able to continue working is very important to 24 and somewhat important to 7; being close to family is very important to 22 and somewhat



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

- important to 16; being in a residential area and being able to walk to amenities is very important to 19 and somewhat important to 12.
- f. Sustainability is very important to 31 families and somewhat important to 9 families.

5. There is interest in exploring housing options, working with other families to create a housing option and participating in a focus group. Many respondents aren't sure what this means, but are interested in learning more. 17 families are very interested in exploring options and 24 are not sure but want to learn more. 20 are interested in joining a start-up group and an additional 20 aren't sure but want to learn more. 35 are interested in joining a focus group.

Our House Communities invited about 20 of those families whose survey answers indicated both that they were willing or interested to join a startup group to create new housing, and that they see their son or daughter moving into independent housing in the next two or three years. Eighteen families attended the initial meeting of this group on August 23. Other invited families who could not attend on that date, and several who were not invited because their need for an independent housing option is farther in the future, asked to be kept informed and invited to future meetings.

There was strong interest in forming a group to explore establishing a residence for young women. Six families have scheduled a meeting on September 20 to continue that discussion, with a goal of opening a women's house sometime in 2023.

Several families of young men expressed an interest in learning more about the current Our House Communities house.

RESOURCES/BUDGET



AGENCY/PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDING Fiscal Year 2022-2023

- (18) What non-financial resources are required to deliver this service? Specify staffing/volunteer requirements, budgetary needs and other resources or inputs that are needed for this program. If the Township is unable to fund this program at the desired level, what will the impact be on services? Describe how your program will or will not continue without investment by the Township. Complete the attached budget forms. Were any cost reduction measures implemented in the prior year? If there is a sliding fee scale for this program, please attach it and indicate how many clients paid each fee level.

The non-financial resources required include:

- High quality staff to deliver person-centered supports for housemates
- Landlords who are willing to lease to unrelated adults with developmental disabilities
- Neighbors who accept non-traditional households and welcome OHC residents as full members of the community
- Parental involvement and time to establish and maintain the house

If the Township is unable to fund this program, the parents in the first house will continue paying privately and managing the house as long as possible, but they may not be able to sustain this beyond a few years. OHC will not be able to open additional houses as quickly as planned because it will not have the capacity to support families who want to help their adult children move into the community.

There were no specific cost reduction measures implemented, but families are carefully tracking all household expenditures to ensure adherence to the budget. Taking advantage of the employee retention tax credit allowed us to reduce the size of the family contribution for shared expenses. Also, a member of the Township review committee told us in our meeting last November about possible rent subsidies from Housing Our Own Wilmette. All three of our current residents applied to HOOW and were each awarded grants of \$300 per month starting in May of this year.

The Township grant which partially funds staff compensation, has reduced the annual house expenses borne by the housemates and their families. Parents continue to manage the overall budget, payroll, household maintenance payments and staff scheduling.

- (19) If your program or agency budget request represents an increase from last year, please explain the reason for the change and what the increase will be used for.

We spearheaded an initiative to provide more housing for people with disabilities in the community. Our survey identified 34 families to work with us in opening another house over the next two to five years. A village trustee of Wilmette reached out to us to tell us Wilmette is very interested in developing affordable housing and reached out to us to work with us. We see the opportunity to make New Trier Township a scalable model for innovative community based housing for people with disabilities.

**NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP
ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST FORM**

2022-2023 Agency Budget Form

AGENCY NAME:			
Indicate year in each column	2021	2022	2023
	PRIOR	PRESENT	PROPOSED
	YEAR	YEAR	YEAR
AGENCY REVENUES			
New Trier Township	\$35,000	\$31,666	\$35,000
Federal Government	28,372*		
State Government			
Local Government/Townships			
Client Fees	\$75,342	\$106,279	\$105,645
Grants: Foundations, Corporate, Religious		\$7,200	\$9,600
Individual Contributions	\$175		
Special Events			
United Way			
Sales			
Other Revenues			
TOTAL REVENUES	\$138,889	\$145,145	\$150,245
AGENCY EXPENDITURES			
Program Staff Salaries, Benefits, Taxes	\$78,802	\$82,318	\$84,788
Administrative Staff Salaries, Benefits, Taxes			
Fundraising Staff Salaries, Benefits, Taxes			
Professional Fees/Contractual Services	\$1,975	\$2,000	\$2,100
General Operating Expenses - D&O	\$957	\$957	\$957
Occupancy and Utilities	\$44,400	\$46,000	\$48,000
Specific Assistance to Individuals			
Major and Minor Equipment			
Major Capital Expenses			
Other Fundraising Expenses			
Other/Miscellaneous	\$10,118	\$11,000	\$11,500
Workers' Comp.	\$2,285	\$2,870	\$2,900
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$138,537	\$145,145	\$150,245
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)			
NET GAIN/LOSS FROM OTHER FUNDS			
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	-\$352	\$0	\$0
TOTAL FUNDRAISING/ADMIN COSTS	\$0	\$0	\$0

* Employee Retention Tax Credit, legislatively repealed as of October 1, 2021.