



METRO HOMESHARE

What is Metro HomeShare?

Metro HomeShare is a program linking individuals who have housing to share with others who seek affordable housing in exchange for affordable rent and/or in-kind service.

Why is this program needed?

The greater Portland Metro area is in dire need of additional housing options. Many vulnerable people have lost their housing and been displaced. The well-being of many older adults in the tri-County area depends on housing security and aging in place. However, restricted incomes, rising taxes, the pressure of gentrification is forcing long-time homeowners to sell their homes. Simultaneously, the cost of rental property in the Portland metro area has escalated making renting financially unfeasible. The time is right for Metro HomeShare.

How will the program work? Metro HomeShare will:

- Target initial outreach efforts to develop a robust bank of home-sharers by community partner networks such as case managers, faith communities, and housing program staff in our recruitment efforts. We anticipate an even larger network of service providers will refer home-seekers to the program.
- Help home-seekers and home-providers find matches using trained staff and contract support assistance. Screen and support clients and homeowners by: conducting background checks; providing program orientation and home visits; and linking participants to case management and when appropriate, dispute resolution support.
- Our 5 year goals include diversifying both our Advisory Committee and our home-sharer outreach efforts to target other populations such as veterans, people in recovery from addiction and/or mental health issues, domestic violence survivors, refugees and immigrants, and other culturally-specific groups.

Outcomes? Metro HomeShare will:

- Preserve and leverage existing housing stock to provide long-term rental solutions.
- Provide support services to households at risk of displacement.
- Provide long term – greater than 2 years in duration on average – below-market options to low-income housing seekers.
- Serve a minimum of 300 individuals (150 matches) per year, once established.
- Require neither capital expenditure nor lengthy development time to generate available units.

Who will run the program?

- **Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO)** will administer the program, with **Pauline Burkey** as program manager.
- **Pauline Burkey** will serve as MHS' new program manager.
- **Partner Organizations** including Elders in Action, Multnomah County Aging, Disabilities and Veteran Services, Beaverton Dispute Resolution, CareOregon, Portland Housing Bureau, and African American Alliance for Homeownership will serve as anchor members of the Metro HomeShare Advisory Committee.

Funding Sources

Meyer Memorial Trust, Portland Housing Bureau, and CareOregon have provided startup funds through grants and local government partnerships. EMO and its partners plan to seek ongoing fee-for-service contracts with local municipalities as well as corporate donations to sustain the program. EMO will also consider a sliding fee schedule to cover some program costs.

October 2017 – Anticipated launch date for providing services to home providers and home seekers

For more information contact: 503-221-1054

After April 24, 2017, please contact Pauline Burkey at pburkey@emoregon.org

In the interim, Howard N. Kenyon, hkenyon@emoregon.org