



## WHAT IS SHARED HOUSING?

Shared housing is a long-term living arrangement where people share a home, each with their own private space and shared common areas.

### Aspects of what Shared Housing provides:

#### Private space, shared home

- Everyone has their own room, but shares communal areas, creating both independence and a sense of community.

#### Two roles, one partnership

- A home provider offers a furnished or unfurnished room. A home seeker may contribute by paying affordable rent, helping with household tasks, or a combination of both.

#### Flexible arrangements

- Each match is unique — designed to meet the needs, preferences, and lifestyles of the people involved.

#### More than saving money

- Shared housing can reduce loneliness, provide mutual support, and increase feelings of safety and stability — especially for older adults, single individuals, or those seeking companionship.

SCAN TO APPLY!



## HOW TO CONNECT

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[www.whalliance.org/sharedhousing](http://www.whalliance.org/sharedhousing)

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## SHARED HOUSING PROGRAM



**Creating safe, affordable, and meaningful housing connections in Washtenaw County**

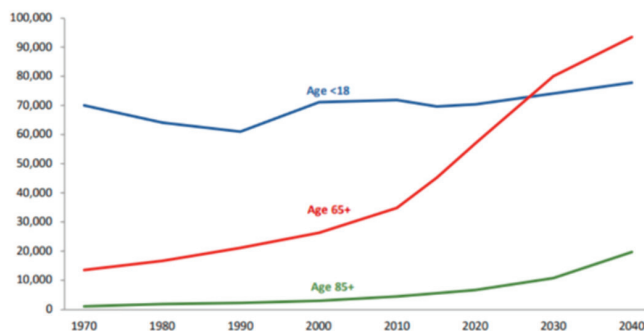
# SHARED HOUSING PROGRAM

## STATS

- Washtenaw County has the highest-cost housing market in Michigan
- Median rent doubled from \$879 (2011) to \$1,911 (2023)
- 58.3% of older renters and 22.3% of older homeowners are housing cost-burdened

Source: Walsh, Sarah. (2022). SERVICE NEEDS OF OLDER ADULTS in Washtenaw County. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.16266.89288

## Estimated and Projected Population of Washtenaw County, Michigan, by Age Group, 1970-2040



Above is a line graph showing that Washtenaw County has a growing number of older adults. The current population of older adults in Washtenaw County (72,000) is projected to grow by 65% by 2045 to 119,000. 44% of older adults live alone in Washtenaw County.

Source: Washtenaw County Commission on Aging. Aging Needs Summary, 2022

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

### Home Providers – Individuals With a Spare Bedroom

- Own or rent a home in Washtenaw County
- Have a private room to offer
- Interested in companionship, home help, or extra income
- Willing to share common areas and set expectations
- Must pass reference checks, interview, and home visit
- Sign a **Shared Housing Agreement** with the home seeker

### Home Seekers – Individuals Seeking Affordable Housing

- Looking for safe, stable, and affordable housing (example rent ranges: \$0–\$750)
- Often older adults themselves, or value intergenerational living
- May pay rent, provide services, or a combination of both
- Complete screening, interview, and reference checks
- Respectfully share the space and responsibilities
- Sign a **Shared Housing Agreement** with the home provider

## ELIGIBILITY

- At least one participant in the shared housing arrangement must be 55+.
- Must live in Washtenaw County
- Must pass reference and background checks, interview, and home visit.

## WHA PROVIDES:

- Intake & screening
- Background and reference checks
- Interviews and match introductions
- **Shared Housing Agreements**
- Ongoing check-ins and mediation

