

HOME

Home is where the heart is. If we are not happy at home, then all our other life experiences are less grand. It is critical to plan for the physical home of the person with a disability by taking into consideration the spirit of the home.

Mary's parents always wanted Mary to continue living in their home for the rest of her life. A large farmhouse several miles from town, it was where Mary had lived her entire life. Imagine their surprise when Mary told them that she wanted to live in an apartment in town. She wanted to be near a local coffee shop where she could visit with people each morning. She wanted to be able to walk to her job at a local factory in the morning and to her volunteer position in the afternoon.

Discuss with the person the various options available within the community. For example, there are a variety of living arrangements available to people with disabilities, from home ownership to family care.

Planning a future home for the person may also include planning for supports. When considering the type of home arrangement, consider the frequency, intensity and presence of supports required. Does the preferred living option allow for the necessary supports? Does the home fit his or her needs or is it geared to suit the needs of the people providing supports? If having roommates or living with a family is the preferred arrangement, do they share common interests, values and lifestyle?

Creating a home for the future may require significant financial and legal planning. Consult a knowledgeable attorney to make the person's dream for the future a reality.

The following tools may help you plan. Select those that work best for your situation or create your own. Provide as much detail as you can. Add extra pages if you need to.

Tools

Neighborhood and Community Chart

Monthly Calendar

Yearlong Calendar

Things to Consider About Home

Home Questions



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

WHO?

- Family Member
- Supportive Family Setting
- Support Staff
- Roommate/Friend
- Independent
- Other _____

HOUSING

- Single Family Home
- Apartment
- Condo
- Other _____



ENVIRONMENT

NEIGHBORHOOD

- Rural
- Urban
- Suburban

- Mild Climate
- 4 Seasons
- Mountains
- Water



Monthly Calendar

List those events that occur on a regular basis . . . appointments, routine activities, etc.

To complete calendar, write-in dates for each month.

Month of _____

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT

Yearly Calendar

Note all family traditions: birthdays, holidays, special events, religious observances. . . .

JAN.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

FEB.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

MAR.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

APR.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

MAY

Date:	Activity and Important Information

JUN.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

JUL.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

AUG.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

SEPT.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

OCT.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

NOV.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

DEC.

Date:	Activity and Important Information

Things to Consider About Home

Describe the ideal...

Neighborhood

- Yard and/or immediate surroundings
- Closeness to neighbors
- Location
- Within “walking distance” to _____
- Local community

Physical space

- Private space
- Accessibility & home modifications
- Layout
- House mates
- Lifestyle
- Belongings & furnishings

Routines & Schedules

- Habits: morning, afternoon & evening
- Chores
- Comforts

Supports

- Diet & meals
- Safety
- Personal care
- Relational & emotional
- Sustaining well-being
- Judgment & decision-making

