



Contract Families

A NEW WAY FORWARD FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIVING IN IRELAND

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Background

- Home Sharing
- Interagency
- Promoting community inclusion and awareness
- Learning from the UK Experience
- Legislation and policy

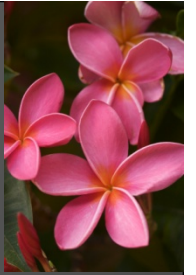


Values and Benefits



- Person Centred at all times
- Unique Focus on the Individual
- The Success is in the Match
- Partnerships between Families
- Ordinary Life Experiences.
- Community Involvement
- Constant Positive Feedback about the scheme

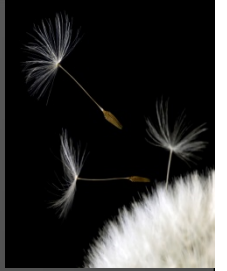
Contract Families



Rationale that the Home Sharing model could be developed

- To provide a home from home experience for people with higher needs in the community
- An alternative to traditional residential respite and residential care.
- Families/Individuals available with the skills and dedication to care on a more full time basis

Contract Family Pilot



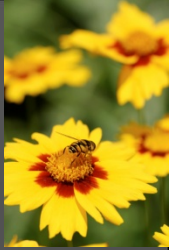
- Two year pilot project funded by Pobal EDS Scheme
- Develop an Innovative and Cost Effective model of Service
- Provide this model to children and adults with greater needs than previously catered for in Home Sharing
- The Security of a Contract Arrangement

The Contract



- Signed contract
- 16 nights/sessions per month
- Retainer based on "Rent a Room" Scheme
- Expenses per night/session
- Emergency provision
- Annual review
- High Quality support

Pobal Provision



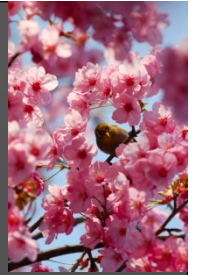
- €500,000 funding over two years
- One whole time equivalent Social Worker (two part -time posts)
- One administrator
- Funding for evaluation
- Housing adaptations
- Recruitment, training, assessment and support

Payments



Type of Session	Level 1	Level 2
Day (>7 hours)	€ 40	€70
Weekday Overnight	€ 40	€70
Weekend Overnight	€ 75	€125

Retainer



Number of nights/sessions per month	Rate- Annual/monthly
10+ nights	€5,000 per annum €417 per month
16+ nights	€8,000 per annum €666 per month
20 nights	€10, 000 per annum €833 per month

Outcomes



- Eight Contract Families in place
- 39 (22 children and 17 adults) placed
- 23 individuals with higher needs placed
- Current Resources used to better effect
- Individuals experiencing ordinary family and community life outside disability services
- Two houses fully adapted

Outcomes (cont'd)



- Happy customers, huge personal benefits
- Value for money
- Less than 60% of cost of residential respite (€14.73 compared to €41.47 per hour)
- Majority of Contract Families developed from Home Sharing
- Identified essential infrastructural supports to operate the service

Cost Comparisons

- ▣ Residential Service =
€41.47 per hour

- ▣ Contract Family =
€14.73 per hour
- ▣ Includes Support,
admin, management

Challenges

- No new funding available to mainstream the project
- Only those with prioritised needs placed with Contract Families
- Need to divert existing resources
- The tax situation for Contract Families
- Strategic planning at National and Local level



The Future

- Both organisations fully committed
- Need for national recognition of this model
- Mainstream locally and nationally
- Strategic planning

