

# Homesharing in Vermont

## A Common Sense Approach: Neighbors Helping Each Other

**WHAT:** HomeShare Vermont and Home Share Now help the State of Vermont meet two important goals by assisting our aging neighbors to stay at home, where they want to be, while simultaneously helping others find an affordable place to live.

**WHO:** While there are no age or income restrictions for homesharing, most people sharing their homes are older adults or persons with a disability while most people looking for housing can't afford market rents.



Those Who.....	Shared Their Home	Found Housing
Age Range	27-99	22-86
Average Age	75	50
% Low Income (HUD)	70%	88%

**HOW:** We provide a comprehensive screening and matching service with ongoing support to those persons in a match.

### FY 16 HomeShare Vermont & Home Share Now Results Based Accountability (RBA) Outcomes

How Much?	Unduplicated # of Persons in Match	257
	# of Housing Units Created	199 homes available to share
	# of Service Hours Exchanged	39,014 hours of assistance to seniors & others

How Well?	Homeshare Average Match Length	364 days
	Participant Satisfaction	99% very or somewhat satisfied with services

Is Anyone Better off?	Affordability of Housing	Average Rent	\$ 262	
	Ability of Seniors to Stay Safely at Home	Over 43% of those sharing their home reported they would not be able to live safely and comfortably at home without a homesharer.		
	Improved Quality of Life: Those having someone live with them report they.....	Have improvement in at least one quality of life indicator	99%	
		Feel Safer in their Home	74%	
		Feel Happier	78%	
		Feel Less Lonely	67%	
		Sleep Better	57%	
Feel Healthier	45%			

**(See back of page for Return on Investment)**

## FY 16 Return on Investment

In FY 2016 the State of Vermont provided \$ 142,545 of General Fund dollars (level funding since 2007) and \$ 184,618 of matching federal funds to HomeShare Vermont and Home Share Now. **This investment of state funding allowed individual Vermonters to save over \$ 1,062,000.**



Homesharing provided approximately 39,014 hours of assistance to older adults and others. This represents a **savings of over \$ 453,000 for those sharing their home and their families if they had to hire help.**<sup>1</sup>

By sharing their homes, low income seniors and others received over **\$ 233,000 in rental income to help them make ends meet.**

**The average rent of a homesharing match was \$262 with 27% of matches paying \$0 rent.** Using the difference between market rents and homeshare actual rents, it is estimated that **home sharers saved over \$ 609,000 in rental expenses.**<sup>2</sup>

## Homesharing Resources in Vermont



412 Farrell Street, Ste. 300  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
(802) 863-5625



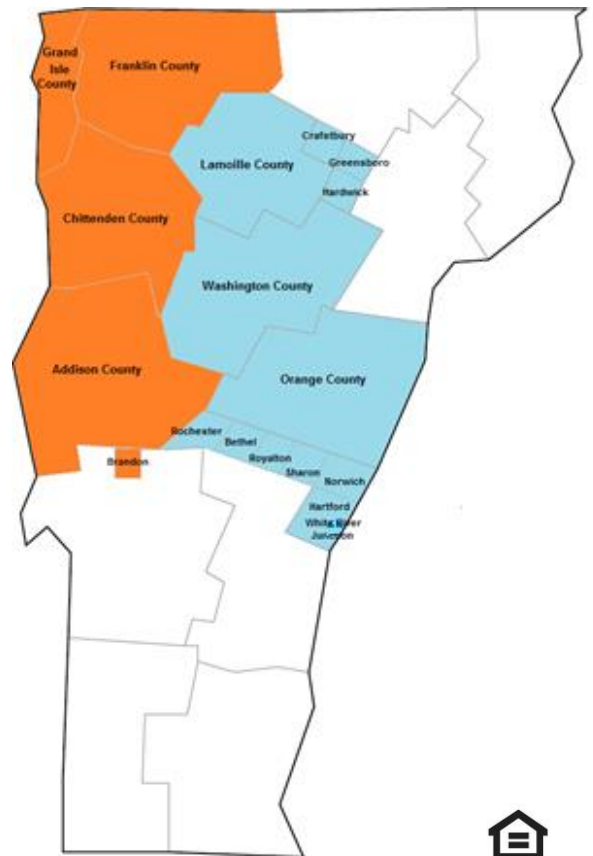
105 N. Main St., Ste. 103  
Barre, VT 05641  
(802) 479-8544



Fourteen years ago homesharing services were available only in the greater Burlington area. Now, through two organizations, HomeShare Vermont and Home Share Now, over 60% of Vermont's population is served. Total service area currently consists of 7+ counties and demand is statewide.

### ***"A Vermonter's Guide to Homesharing"***

To assist Vermonters outside of our service area, we provide a do-it-yourself guidebook, "A Vermonter's Guide to Homesharing" and are available to provide consultation and support to all who call with questions or need guidance. Homesharing programs are few across the United States, and Vermont has the largest geographic coverage of any state in the country.



<sup>1</sup> Based on personal care attendant median wage, Bureau of Labor Statistics, VT State Occupation & Employment Wage Estimates

<sup>2</sup> Based on fair markets rents for counties in service area of both program VT Housing Finance Agency