

# Act 186 (2022) Pilot Planning Grants Update to House Human Services Committee

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Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living  
Developmental Disabilities Services Division

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DDS Current  
Residential  
Options with the  
Vermont State  
System of Care  
for  
Developmental  
Disabilities  
Services: Home  
Setting  
Definitions

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Group Living: Daily (24/7) support in a staffed home setting (3-6 people).

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In-Home Family Support: Hourly support in the home of unpaid family caregivers.

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Independent Living: No paid home support.

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Shared Living: Daily (24/7) support in the home of a shared living provider (1-2 people).

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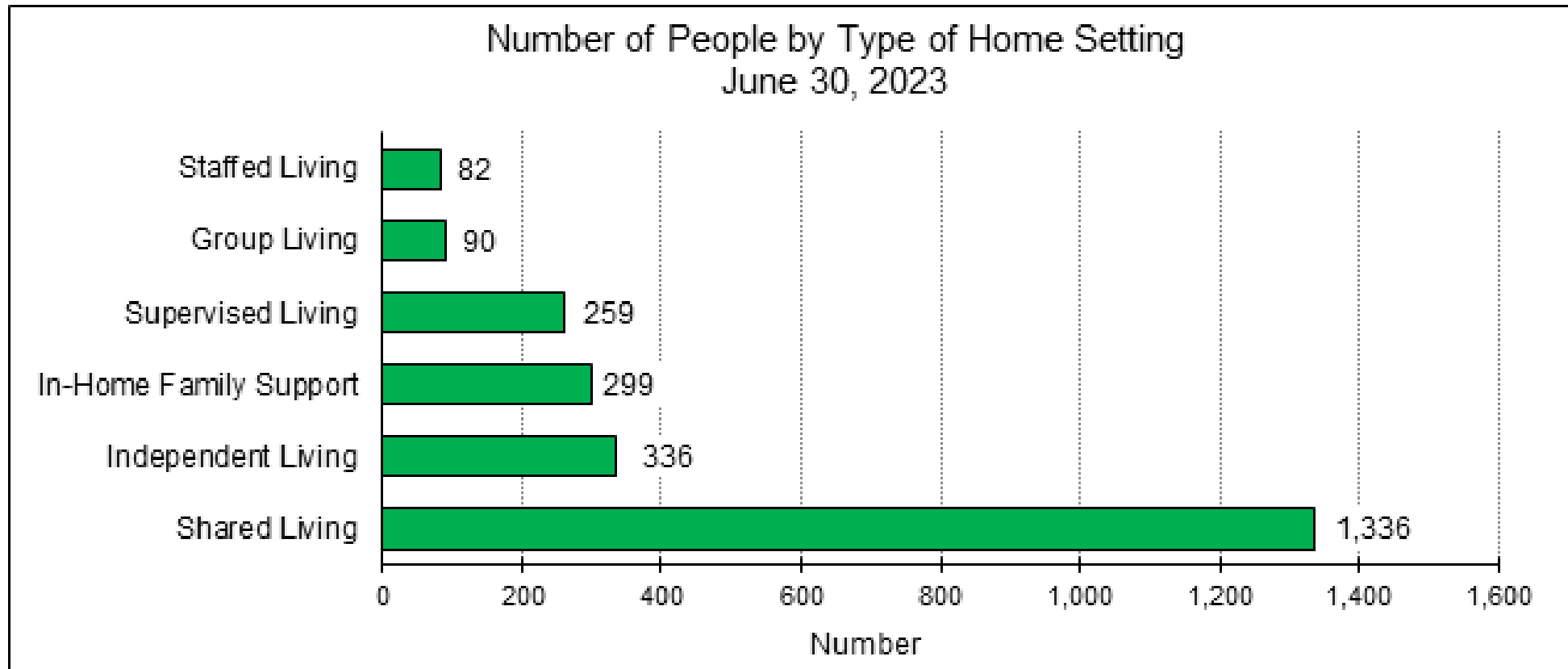
Staffed Living: Daily (24/7) support in a staffed home setting (1-2 people).

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Supervised Living: Hourly support in persons' own home/apartment (1-2 people).

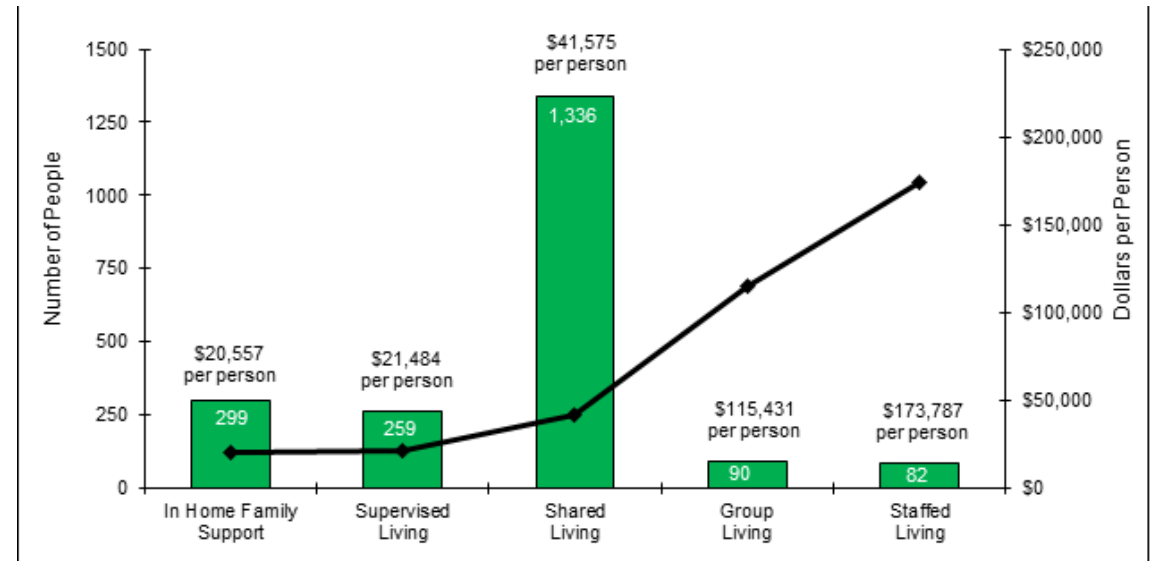
# DDS Current Residential System of Care: Facts and Figures

In Vermont, 96% people with intellectual/developmental disabilities live in settings of 1-3 people versus the national rate of 54%.



# DDS Housing Cost Analysis

- Home Support Cost per Person (HCBS Funding) Compared to Numbers by Type of Home (June 30, 2022)
- 76% of people receiving home supports reside in a shared living arrangement.
- This model, while cost-effective and proven successful for many, is not the home support solution for all individuals.



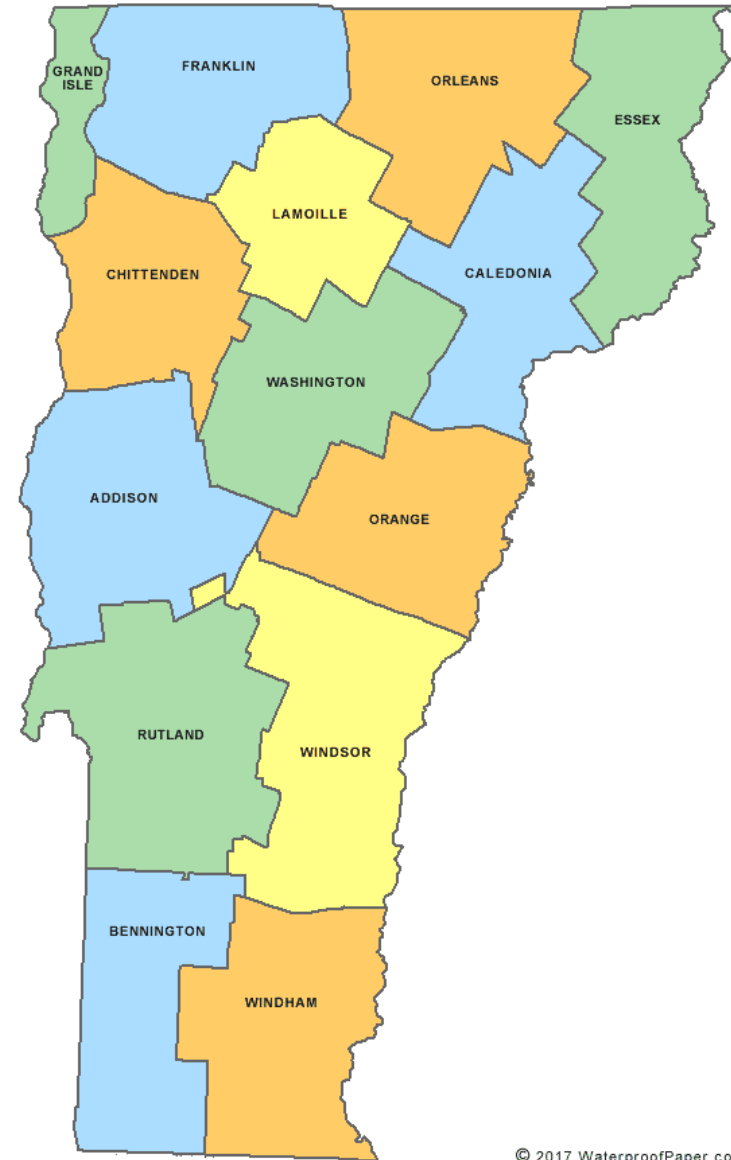
# Act 186 (2022) Pilot Planning Grants

- Section 5 of [Act 186 \(2022\)](#) required the development of Housing and Residential Services Pilot Planning Grants.
- Appropriated \$500,000 in Global Commitment Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) dollars to fund these pilots.
- Established a framework for the intended models:
  - Require a partnership with a designated or specialized service agency.
  - Be in at least three (3) different regions of the State. Regions are defined by designated agency catchment areas.
  - Develop new housing and/or residential options.
  - Reflect the varied needs of individuals with developmental disabilities—including options to support individuals with high support needs and/or alternative communication needs.
  - Be consistent with state and federal home and community-based services regulations and guidelines.
  - Be sustainable.

# Pilot Planning Grant Awardees

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- Awarded three grants across Vermont.
- Regions of focus include Addison, Chittenden, Orange, and Washington Counties.
- New, innovative, and expanded models include:
  - Permanent Supportive Housing
  - Technology Supported Housing
  - Intentional Community



# Pilot Planning Grant #1: Upper Valley Services

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- **Location:** Orange and Washington Counties
- **Partnerships:** Upper Valley Services, Downstreet Housing, Ward Joyce Design, Duncan-Wisniewski Architecture, Eugene Skip Whitman, and members of the Developmental Disabilities Housing Initiatives (DDHI) group, parents and guardians.
- **Model:** Permanent supportive housing to offer access to transportation, social and community connections, and essential services and resources.
- **Expected number of units:** 8-12, total, across both locations.
- **Total Award:** \$167,000



# Pilot Planning Grant #2: Chittenden Housing Trust

## CHAMPLAIN HOUSING TRUST



- **Location:** Chittenden County
- **Partnerships:** Chittenden Housing Trust, Howard Center, Champlain Community Services, A. Harte Consulting, Duncan-Wisniewski Architecture, University of Vermont, and members of the Developmental Disabilities Housing Initiatives (DDHI) group, parents and guardians.
- **Model:** Permanent and supportive housing to offer inclusive housing with a focus on the use of technological supports.
- **Expected number of units:** 8-12 units.
- **Total Award:** \$173,500





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## Pilot Planning Grant #3: Riverflow Community

- **Location:** Addison County
- **Partnerships:** Howard Center, Washington County Mental Health Services, Hannah Schwartz.
- **Model:** Intentional living community.
- **Expected number of units:** 15 units
- **Total Award:** \$169,500



# Additional Grant Aspects

- Included in the Upper Valley Services plan is the creation of guide to share with parents, individuals and other housing groups in the future development of housing models/options.
  - Documenting this information is intended to facilitate understanding and enable replicability of increased options within Vermont.
- Included in the Champlain Housing Trust plan is the development of resources including:
  - A list of helpful tools and technology that can support both residents and staff.
  - A guide to the best ways to use and train staff based on residents' needs. And for the best technology to use to schedule resident's activities and staff time.
  - A guide to helping residents get along in the housing. And to help residents get involved in the local community.
  - A list of possible daily activities that help all the different residents feel content and have friends.
  - A list of changes and adjustments that can be made to the building and property to support residents with different needs.
  - A list of where to get funding that can help with creating affordable permanent housing for individuals with IDD.

# Grant Reporting and Updates

- Grantees provide quarterly updates to the Developmental Services State Program Standing Committee meeting.
  - January 18, 2024—*following formal announcement of award*
  - March 21, 2024
  - June 20, 2024
  - September 19, 2024
- Required to provide written quarterly updates to the Developmental Disabilities Service Division on same timeline.

# Pilot Project Evaluation Criteria

