

### Commonly asked questions about the SHARE Program:

1. **What is the SHARE program?** It's a housing scholarship for parents who are currently in college or vocational training program. Parents in the SHARE program pay a very low rent (\$100 per room) for up to 2 years while living in a SHARE home.
2. **What is a SHARE home?** It's a large 4-6 bedroom home that is available ONLY to families in the Self-Sufficiency Program. *The Self-Sufficiency Program is for parents who are currently in college or vocational training program.*
3. **How many families live in one home?** A max of 2-3 families share a home.
4. **How do I know it's safe?** We screen all applicants to our program by doing a thorough intake and background check. All families in the SHARE homes have to meet the same requirements to live there and be a part of the Self-Sufficiency Program.
5. **How long can I live there?** 18-24 months
6. **What is the rent?** \$100 to \$140 per room depending the property. The parent has their own room and the children have their own room, on average the families have two rooms total.
7. **What is the benefit of SHARE?** It allows the parent to focus on school full time for two years without having to worry about high rent costs. The parent has a chance to save money, pay off existing debts and increase their credit score.
8. **Can I work while going to school in SHARE?** Yes, in fact many of our parents in SHARE are working either full-time or part-time or they are receiving cash aid/financial aid if they are not working to pay their rent and other expenses.
9. **Do I have to be in school full time?** The short answer is YES. The long answer is dependent upon the family's educational plan and what's required to complete it. Some families can finish in two years with a part-time school schedule and some need to go full time to finish their plan in two years.
10. **Why can't I have my own apartment?** While we have some scholarships where a family can rent their own apartment, there are a couple of determining factors for a scholarship in an apartment: a) availability of scholarships at the time of referral; b) qualifying for a scholarship in an apartment.
11. **Is the waiting list long and how long will it take for me to move in?** The wait list is not long, however it may take 2-6 months for a move in depending on when the next family moves out. Everyone moves in at different times.
12. **Are pets allowed?** Unfortunately, no they are not. Due to a shared living environment, families moving in will need to find other arrangements for their pets during the time they are living in the home.

*For additional questions not answered here, please contact Tafisi Suafai, Self-Sufficiency Program Specialist Director at 650-348-6660 x380 or [tsuafai@hiphousing.org](mailto:tsuafai@hiphousing.org)*

While on the waiting list for a SHARE property, a family will receive supportive services including case management, referrals and any donations received for participants. *Last updated 11/22/22*