

Cost Comparison With and Without Housemates

Based on your current income:

| | Without a Housemate | With a Housemate/s (estimate) |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Your Income | | |
| a. Take-Home Pay - Monthly | | |
| b. Additional Income (Food stamps, etc.) - Monthly | | |
| Total Income | | |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 2. Your Expenses – Monthly Estimates | | |
| a. Housing | | |
| b. Transportation (Bus pass, gas, insurance, tolls, etc.) | | |
| c. Utilities (Heat, electricity, etc.) | | |
| d. Entertainment (Cable, internet, etc.) | | |
| e. Groceries | | |
| f. Eating out | | |
| g. Alcohol/Tobacco | | |
| h. Medical (Co-pays, prescriptions, etc.) | | |
| i. Emergency fund (\$20/week = \$1,040 a year) | | |
| j. Debt payments (Credit cards, student loans, etc.) | | |
| k. Phone | | |
| l. Other expenses (i.e. storage, hobbies, personal care) | | |
| Total Expenses | | |

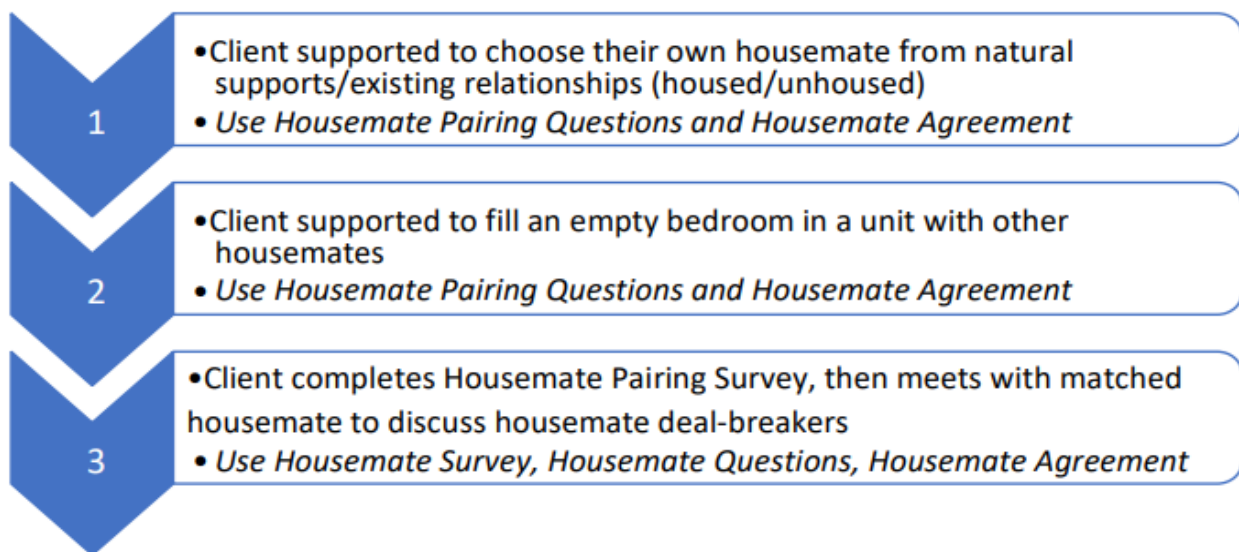
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| 3. Your Bottom Line | | |
| Income Minus Expenses | | |

What other expenditures could be prioritized with lower housing costs? If a shared living situation allowed for an additional \$200 of disposable income each month, how would you spend it?

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The goal of the housemate pairing process is to support existing relationships and natural supports whenever possible (e.g., family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and acquaintances), or identify potential housemates with a survey tool, then discuss housemate preferences in a meet and greet to determine if selected housemate/s are a good fit.

Housemate Pairing Process



If the client does not have access to natural supports or existing relationships, most SH providers implement a basic two-step housemate pairing process:

1. Housemate Pairing Survey given to clients interested in Shared Housing
2. Potential Matches (made by staff) are invited to meet each other, one on one or in a small group, to determine dealbreakers, discuss accommodations and establish a written contract with each other with the Housemate Agreement.