



THE HOMESHARE ANNUAL REPORT 2021



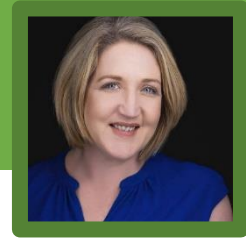
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Forward

By Lucie Cunningham CEO & Founder



As 2021 draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on how not only THE HomeShare organisation has fared in our 2nd year living with Covid, but also how each of our matches have managed. The one word that keeps coming back to me is "Resilient". This powerful word beautifully describes Homeshare in general. Even through the toughest of times, it survives, it works, it grows.

THE HomeShare is now in its 5th Year and 2021 has been our busiest so far. You will read from our report and the survey results, with thanks to our Householders, family members and Sharers, we have grown exponentially year on year and having worked in many different sectors throughout my career, I have never worked in an area where the overwhelming majority have positive experiences with very few negative ones. 97% of respondents say that Homesharing has had a positive impact on their lives.

Anyone working in the Healthcare Sector (and other sectors) have had one major crisis that really doesn't show signs of recovery in the near future. That crisis is staff recruitment and retention. I admit, when I first started thinking about the Homeshare model, it really was older people I mainly thought of as the beneficiaries. Not until I founded THE HomeShare in 2017 did I realise accommodation seekers need this model as much as anyone wanting some company and a helping hand to remain living in their own homes on their terms, affordably. That is why Homeshare works. Both parties of the arrangement need each other. It is so simply reciprocal, as both people offer help as well as receiving help. Each participant is there for each other, ensuring life changing progress. Together Helping Each Other. So simple, so powerful, so impactful.

As we continue to match people to live together, we are seeing a knock-on effect for our wider society. Professionals are once again back in larger cities and towns working in sometimes low paid jobs, thanks to having affordable accommodation. Students can now afford to study and perhaps not have to work as many hours to pay for their accommodation. Separated and divorced individuals get some breathing space, in a loving home environment while they slowly rebuild their lives and their hearts. At last, people now have a housing model where they live in a lovely, spacious, uncrowded home with a face that lights up when they come home, and they also get to save to buy their own forever home in a far shorter period of time.

Our Homeshare team can be heard regularly telling Householders in their 80's, 90's and even at 102 years of age how they can really make the biggest contribution to someone's life. Gifting them to live in a lovely home whilst they get the opportunity to save money for a deposit for their own home in the future. What a remarkable opportunity to give someone.

It has been an incredible year for THE HomeShare. We have made so many new friends through our 74 new matches. Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to some really special people who have left this world to be reunited with their loved ones. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to their families. We will always remember them so fondly and cherish our wonderful memories and visits with them all.

I am the luckiest person in Ireland with the most amazing, kind, empathic, hardworking team. We now have Homeshare Consultants in 3 provinces in Ireland, Leinster, Munster, and Connaught. We are so excited to get started on some big plans for 2022, which will hopefully offer an exciting brand new and affordable choice in the rental market. We look forward to continue offering our support to enable more people to remain living in their own homes as well as help more people find a lovely home to live in.

Thank you most sincerely to everyone who has continued to support us. We depend on people to help us spread the Homeshare option and we look forward to collaborating with more organisations in the coming year. Don't forget we still have a few opportunities for supporters of the 7th World Homeshare Congress we are hosting in May 2023 at Dublin Castle!



Lucie, Brid & Oralis, Meath

2021 IMPACT SURVEY RESULTS

Serving **The Republic of Ireland**, THE HomeShare is proud to support Matches in 11 Counties

Over the course of 2021, THE HomeShare has created **74 unique Matches** bringing together **148 individuals** to live together for Mutual Benefit

97.2% of survey respondents said **HomeSharing has made a positive impact on their Lives**

THE HomeShare were Winners of 2 Awards for **Best Home Care Provider** in 2021



25.7% of Respondents noted no change in their relative's health and well-being

74.3% of respondents said that they have seen **an improvement in their loved one's health and well-being** since they began HomeSharing

Approximately **15,000 hours** of practical support provided by our Sharers to date in 2021

When asked whether respondents would recommend THE HomeShare

83% of Respondents said Yes while the remaining 17% stated they already had!

60% of Sharers Surveyed said they **would not go back to 'normal' renting after Homesharing**

THE HomeShare Programme



THE HomeShare is currently supporting Householders/Matches across 11 Counties in Ireland

While THE HomeShare solely operates within the Republic of Ireland, homesharing can be found right across the globe in over 18 Countries with each homeshare Programme varying slightly.

Some programmes for example are aimed at students, while other focus on reducing homelessness, and there are also programmes that not only support older persons, but young families in need of a safe home environment.

Each model/programme ultimately has the same premise – enabling people to remain living as independently as possible at home, for as long as possible through the provision of shared housing support.

In most homeshare programmes such as THE HomeShare, Homeshare Co-Ordinators:

- Screen potential candidates,
- Personally introduce and match individuals skilfully,
- Negotiate an agreement,
- Monitor the match,
- and provide ongoing support to both parties throughout the duration of the arrangement.

In the USA this is generally termed the ‘**counselling model**’. Other programmes interview applicants and suggest matches, and it is then up to the applicants to take the arrangement forward (the ‘referral’ model).

Homesharing has wide ranging benefits for both Householder and Sharer



Companionship



Security



Support



A Home



Affordability

Protecting Your loved Ones

Underpinning THE HomeShare's core Values of **Trust, Connection, Collaboration, and Commitment**, is the **Safety and Security** of all our Matches

For most, homesharing is a new venture and can at first bring about reservations, which is especially true for the older householder who may not have shared their home with anyone other than family before. It is understandably a daunting notion, opening your home to whom, in their eyes, is a stranger.

Our Team in THE HomeShare understand this, which is why we take things at the householder's pace, listening to their concerns and offering reassurance where we can.

One way we provide reassurance is by following a **Person-Centred Approach**, ensuring the householder's wishes and choices are at the core of all interactions. By staying in tune with the Householder's needs and hearing their individual preferences, our Homeshare Co-Ordinators are armed with a detailed outline of the householder's preferred Sharer. This, along with the co-ordinator's own intuition, is how we begin our search.

While THE HomeShare receives upwards of 200 applications per week, we carefully screen each application, in some cases multiple times, as one candidate may not suit one householder, but may be the perfect match for another.



Once applications are screened, we speak with the candidates via phone, zoom or in person to get a more thorough understanding and sense of their personality, expectations, and values. As suitable candidates are identified, the householder and/or family member/advocate is sent a brief biography of each potential Sharer so they can choose who they do/don't wish to meet in person.

When arranging an introduction, a member of THE HomeShare team is always present. During an introduction, the householder and potential sharer can get to know one another further, ask questions and get a greater understanding of the other person.

Should both parties wish to move forward to a trial, THE HomeShare begins **formally screening applicants** which involves reference checking (minimum 3) of both a personal and professional nature. Our HomeShare coordinators personally speak with referees and ensure a carefully crafted checklist of questions is completed before moving on.

The next stage is formally vetting applicants through the National Garda Vetting Bureau. As a **fully registered organisation** with the Bureau, our **Garda Vetting Officer** Lucie Cunningham, screens all potential sharers once a decision has been made to move forward to a trial homeshare arrangement.



It doesn't end here, however. As part of our ongoing support, **THE HomeShare Team is on call 24/7** should an issue arise, or emergency occur. The team also carries out monthly in-person visits to check in with our matches.



To add another layer of protection and reassurance, within the last 12 months, HomeShare Manager Niamh Sweetman has undergone further training and is now THE HomeShare's **Dedicated Safeguarding Officer**.

Safeguarding means living safely, free from abuse or neglect. It means people's choices are heard and respected. As Safeguarding Officer, Niamh is available to **provide support and guidance** and most importantly to **protect** both Householder and Sharer from any form of abuse or neglect.

The various safeguarding and protection teams located right across Ireland are available to us in the event of a potential safeguarding concern.



Sandra & Jo, Dublin

Our Calls to Action 2020 – Where we are now

Our aim for 2021 was for Homeshare to become a mainstream housing and social care option in which participants can have confidence.

In our 2020 Annual Report we outlined several points needed to make this happen:

- Investment for Homeshare in areas currently not well serviced including Galway, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, the Northwest and more rural areas outside the main cities and towns in Ireland
 - ✓ The 2021 launch of the “Age Friendly Homes” pilot has supported THE HomeShare in spreading the word on homesharing as an affordable housing option as well as an option that can enable an older person to remain living in their own homes with practical support and companionship.



*“The **Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme** is an initiative, funded by Sláintecare, that aims to enable older people to continue living in their homes or in a home more suited to their needs, live with a sense of independence and autonomy, be and feel part of their community, and support the avoidance of early or premature admission to long term residential care” www.agefriendlyhomes.ie*

THE HomeShare and Age Friendly Ireland are collaborating on this initiative and communicating regularly with the many Age Friendly Homes Coordinators across Ireland. Our collaborations have been extended further as Age Friendly Ireland are also coming on board as supporters of the upcoming 7th World Homeshare Congress which THE HomeShare is hosting in May 2023.

- Support from local and national policy makers to overcome key policy barriers that prevent people participating in Homeshare.
 - ✓ THE HomeShare continues to lobby Government to break down these barriers to enable the older population of Ireland have equal access to a range of supports including Homesharing. In 2021 THE HomeShare and Dublin City Council created an alliance, highlighting homesharing as an option within the Council’s Housing Section on their website - <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/housing/i-am-looking-home/homeshare>.
 - ✓ THE HomeShare also continues to combat under-occupancy levels in homes across Ireland, increasing current social housing occupancy levels, supporting Local Authorities to reduce expenditure, reducing the number of individuals in emergency accommodation, and delivering on key housing policy objectives by providing an affordable housing option for accommodation seekers. By also providing a 24/7 monitored service, THE HomeShare can support Local Authorities in maintaining communication with their older tenants in the Community, which in turn reduces the level of workload of local authority social workers.

✓ **Health and Social Care professionals and other community based older person services to understand fully the Homeshare model and promote THE HomeShare as a complimentary support model and develop dedicated referral pathways from key public and local services**

- ✓ THE HomeShare has seen a notable increase in referrals from Public Health Nurses, GP's and Social Workers across Ireland within the past 12 months. Thanks to their support and involvement, we have enabled several householders reduce their hospital stay and get home to their own home swiftly. In years gone by, HSE staff such as Public Health Nurses and Social Workers have been hesitant to promote homesharing as an option as it is not a HSE funded operation. For THE HomeShare, now in its 5th year of operation, these departments have begun to welcome homesharing as an option. This is partly due to the ongoing carer crisis. Capacity among the HSE and Homecare providers has meant that individuals currently in hospital waiting on Homecare Support Packages to be put in place have had to remain there unnecessarily. With the support of a sharer, homesharing has enabled some of those waiting on Homecare Support Packages return home to their own familiar surroundings much sooner because there is a level of support in place and of course that all important overnight presence. We must note that this is of course wholly dependent on the level of care required by an individual.
- ✓ While THE HomeShare primarily works with older persons, the programme is also open to those with disabilities, younger adults and also family carers. Most interestingly, over the past year, we have had an increase in enquiries from advocates of individuals with disabilities such as deafness, blindness, learning disabilities, and also those with mobility disabilities such as wheelchair users. As you will see later in our report (Case Study No.1), we have successfully partnered with an Association for People with an Intellectual Disability, to enable a gentleman to live independently in the community with the assistance of homesharing having spent 20 years in a supported residential facility.
- ✓ THE HomeShare has also worked closely with other well-known organisations such as Alone, Age Action, and Sage Advocacy. These organisations do tremendous work in the community and through their roles, have identified a number of individuals who would benefit from a presence in the home. These organisations have been wonderful supporters of THE HomeShare programme.

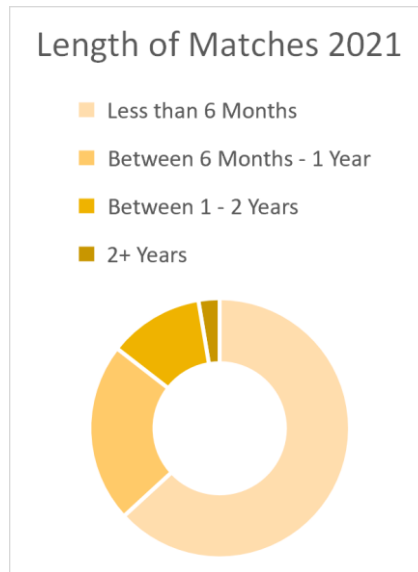
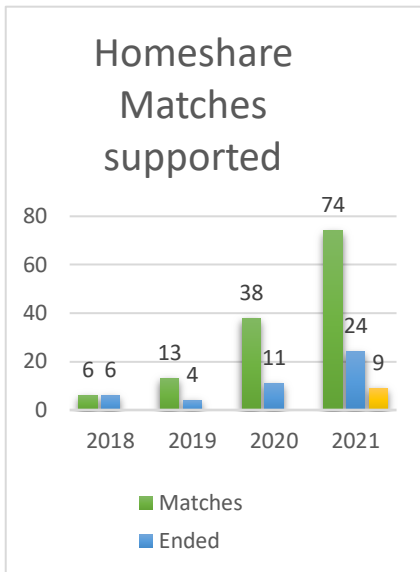
✓ **Older people and their families to plan for later life and look at Homeshare as an option earlier to prevent reaching crisis point and enjoy Homesharing for longer**

- ✓ Having implemented a strong marketing campaign identifying the many housing options available as we age, THE HomeShare has again seen an increase in enquiries from householders, family members and advocates seeking further information on homesharing as an option.
- ✓ Our Team had a stand at the Permanent TSB Ideal Home Show in October 2021 at the RDS in Dublin which enabled us to engage with an array of demographics. Here we promoted homesharing as an 'option for all'.

Typically, it takes some time for individuals/families to make the decision to fully explore an option such as homesharing however as we were able to engage face to face with individuals (following social distancing guidelines of course), we were able to convey the core values and principles of homesharing that traditional forms of marketing simply cannot do. After the event, we were inundated with enquiries that have since resulted in several successful matches.



Snapshot of 2021

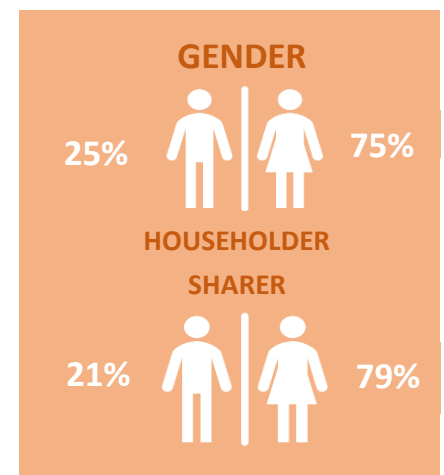
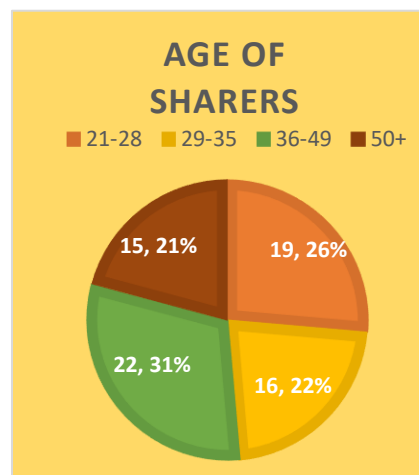
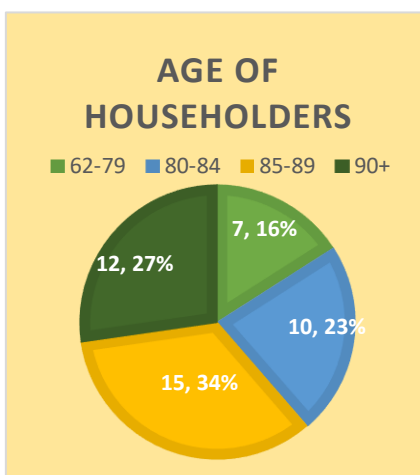


THE HomeShare has supported **74 matches** during 2021 which is **an increase of 95%** on last year. These 74 matches equate to approximately **15,000 support hours** (excluding the overnight presence) throughout the duration of their arrangements this year.

Our Householders are predominantly single females over the age of 80. The average age our Householders supported throughout 2021 is 85 years of age. Of our Sharers, in line with a strong preference from female householders for female sharers and vice versa with male householder, 79% of sharers are female. The average age of our sharers stands at 39 years of age however as you can see from the graph below, there is almost an even spread amongst the various age categories with a notable increase in sharers aged 50+.

The average length of a Homeshare match remains at 6 months with most Householders and Homesharers going on to participate in other Homeshare arrangements.

The highest concentration with **73% of matches is in the greater Dublin area** with 28% based in the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown catchment, 13% in Dublin City, 16% in South Dublin and 16% in the Fingal catchment area. THE HomeShare has seen a notable increase in interest from both prospective householders and sharers within the Fingal catchment area.



Challenges

Covid - 19



Covid 19 remains ever prevalent across Ireland. In early 2020 THE HomeShare saw a dramatic loss of matches directly linked to the Pandemic due to fear of the unknown and potential risk in having an additional person within a Householder's 'bubble'. At the beginning of the Pandemic, sharers working on the frontline and their householders decidedly ended their

homeshare arrangements to best protect one another.

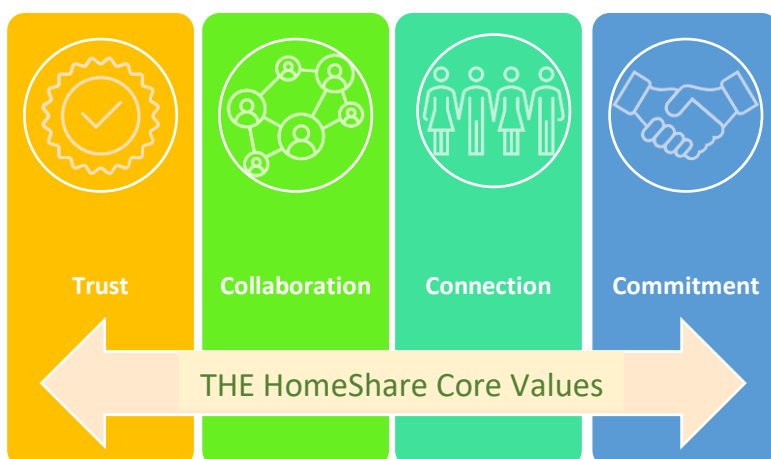
Since the Covid 19 vaccination roll out, Householders and their families/advocates are beginning to feel more at ease with the prospect of an additional person joining their 'bubble' and are now seeking frontline workers, feeling that they may be best protected given the stringent safety protocols and procedures they must follow in their workplaces.

With the ever-looming fear of potential further lockdowns, more variants of the virus and new restrictions being implemented, we have seen an increase in enquiries for those seeking support and companionship, so they do not face the possibility of another Winter isolated in their homes.

Risk averse attitude

Since inception, THE HomeShare has grappled with risk averse attitudes from not only health and social care professionals, but those of individuals seeking our support. While Health and Social Care professionals have begun to support our initiative, overall, their principal superiors continue to prevent dedicated referral routes from being established.

Fear of the unknown and the overall safety of THE HomeShare's model is still the key concern cited by individuals. Within this past year THE HomeShare has taken strides towards providing further reassurance, now with a dedicated safeguarding officer in place, and a renewed registration with the National Garda Vetting Bureau. We hope that this, along with our experienced and skilled team, can reassure those seeking support that homesharing is a person-centred programme, with your choice at the forefront of all decisions.



THE HomeShare is continuing its efforts to establish clear referral pathways so that more Health and Social Care professionals and other community based older person services better understand the Homeshare model and will promote THE HomeShare as both an alternative and complimentary support model.

Case Study

From Residential Care to Independent Living - Gary (68) & Kellie (22)

**Names changed for anonymity*

Gary has been supported by a local association for People with Intellectual Disabilities through residential and day supports for almost 20 years, with his ultimate goal being to purchase his own home.

In 2018, a great deal of time was spent by the Association and the advocate supporting Gary in trying to get access to his own funds as his money was held in 'Trust' as he is a Ward of Court. In March 2019, Gary was told that the courts had appointed a 'Court Liaison' to meet with Gary and his support staff with a view to finding out more information about Gary and his goal of home ownership. In 2019, with the support of the Association and his Court Liaison, Gary officially became a Homeowner.

In the lead up to Gary's purchase of his home, the Association's team worked closely with Gary to provide him with an array of skills and knowledge in how to manage a home. The Association, a registered charity, devised clear support plans and created team schedules for in-home support. While the majority of Gary's care needs were catered for, there were some gaps that they hoped to address which is where THE HomeShare came in. Gary, now a homeowner, wanted to have a house mate to share his new home with and the Association also wanted to find a suitable person who could potentially provide some companionship and a presence in the home when support staff were unable to.

Due to the nature of Gary's status (Ward of Court) and the contractual obligations of accessing THE HomeShare's services, THE HomeShare's Terms of Business and HomeShare Agreement were brought right the way up through the Courts systems as far as the High Court for review to ensure the protection of Gary and his assets. Given Gary's disability and vulnerability (like many other Householders), the safety, security and safeguarding protocols of the arrangement had to be iron clad. After careful consideration, the High Court found THE HomeShare Agreement to be in perfect standing, fully protecting Gary and enabling him to pursue homesharing.

Gary has a zest for life and was hoping to find a sharer whom he could share his love of music and theatre with and maybe even accompany him to gigs and shows. Along came Kellie. Kellie, an American student of music and drama and like Gary, has a zest for life and a passion for all things theatrical! With the support of THE HomeShare Team, the Disability Association and not least his Sharer Kellie, Gary has been living independently for close to a year. The two are perfectly matched, attending shows together, going to the movies and eating dinner together most nights. Gary has even attended Kellie's college shows to show his support and cheer her on!

During lockdown and with little access to regular supports such as work placements and day centres, Gary was delighted to have another person to share his days with. Gary now has an understanding of how to cohabitate with not just another person, but a female and in an independent manner working on a schedule for laundry, creating meal plans and shopping. The pair are homesharing together for almost a year and are looking forward to Christmas, when Kellie's family come to visit.

Case Study

More than Words - Jean (89) & Sarah (28)

**Names changed for anonymity*



Jean is a wonderfully independent lady who has lived alone for some time now. Jean suffers from a rare type of frontotemporal Dementia known as **Primary Progressive Aphasia** which ultimately affects a person's ability to speak. Jean's condition has meant that over the past number of years, her primary form of communication – the spoken word – has deteriorated to a point whereby most would find difficulty in understanding even a short sentence.

Due to Jean's condition, simple tasks such as asking for help in the supermarket or calling a friend over the phone were incredibly difficult and at times very upsetting.

When we first met Jean, we were told of her frustration and upset at being avoided in supermarkets by staff as they didn't seem to have the patience to try to understand and help her. This led to Jean going out less and less and added to her isolation in these Covid times.

Jean has a wonderful home help who visits daily, and her friends and family are also on hand to provide tremendous support, however Jean was still feeling the ill effects of isolation and was uneasy being in her home at night alone especially if something were to happen as she had no quick way of communicating.

When Jean found out about Homesharing she was eager to meet our team and discuss this option through with her daughter present. Jean hoped to find an understanding sharer who would take the time to not only get to know her and her forms of communication but have patience and take the time to converse together.

Jean has now been homesharing with Sarah for almost 6 months now and is delighted with her support. Sarah, a 28-year-old student, is like a second voice for Jean. Picking up on words that are missed by others and enabling Jean to engage more in conversations.

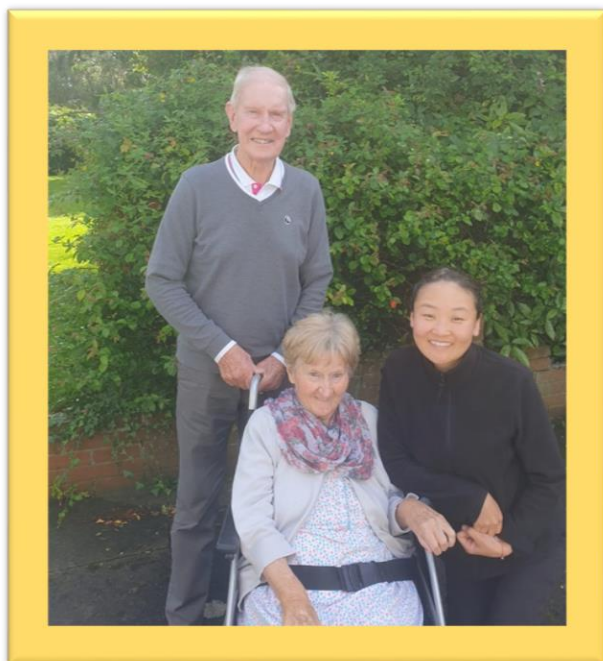
Recently, during a regular monthly check in visit, Jean was telling the Homeshare Consultant about an upcoming appointment. However, some of the words were lost. The HomeShare consultant noticed that Jean looked straight away to Sarah who instantly knew this was her cue to step in and fill in any blanks. It was as though Jean was giving Sarah the nod of approval to be her voice as she was having difficulty.

From our first visit with Jean over 6 months ago to our most recent visit, it is clear to see that Jean has more confidence. The relief in her eyes knowing Sarah can be her voice is extremely humbling to witness.

Case Study

Sharing, Caring, and Celebrating Milestones

Eddie, Mavis & Bud



When Eddie first approached THE HomeShare, he was on the hunt for a service that could provide his beautiful wife Mavis with the support she needed to remain living at home safely. Mavis suffers with Dementia which has advanced quite significantly over the years. Staying true to her wishes, Eddie was and remains determined to keep Mavis at home for as long as possible.

With a warm heart and an open mind, Eddie and Mavis began their homeshare journey in July of 2020 on the hunt for a sharer with a kind heart who could fit into their little bubble. When Bud was introduced, all three hit it off and were happy to move forward and begin their homeshare journey together.

Within a few short weeks all three were settled and living cohesively. Eddie gained a new level of reassurance and was once again able to head out for a round of golf knowing that Mavis was safe and happy at home with Bud.

When Bud first moved in, she was working part time on the other side of the city while also studying an intensive course online. The travel, expense and time it took for Bud to get to her part time job was exhausting, so the family suggested she look for a position closer to home. What transpired next worked out to be better than anyone could have hoped for. Bud carried out the necessary training and found a position as a carer with the agency providing care to Mavis which enabled Bud to gain new skills, stay closer to home, and overall improve her work/life balance. Bud not only homeshares with Eddie and Mavis, but also provides practical care through her work with the agency and this has given Eddie and Mavis immense relief.

The trio have homeshared together for nearly 18 months now and according to Eddie, “Bud is a diamond – there’s no one like her”. It is without a doubt that Bud has become a member of the family. So much so that Eddie and the family threw a big birthday bash for Bud when she celebrated her 30th birthday this year. They’re also looking forward to sharing their second Christmas together (and Bud’s 2nd Christmas full stop!)

Although the homeshare arrangement was initially intended to support Mavis, Eddie too has seen the benefit. He has not only gained peace of mind, but also someone he too can share some time with and chat to. It has been a pleasure to support this wonderful match. Eddie is a true advocate for our programme and has been a wonderful support referring others on to THE HomeShare. As far as Eddie is concerned, “it’s a no-brainer – homesharing works – everyone wins”

7th World Homeshare Congress



THE HomeShare is a member of Homeshare International, the International Charity promoting and supporting professional Homeshare programmes around the World. In 2020 we were honoured to have been accepted to host the 7th Biennial World Homeshare Congress after making a bid to the Homeshare International Board of Trustees. Due to the ever-changing restrictions both on a National and International level due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, it was decided to postpone the Congress from 2022 to May 25-26th 2023.

There are currently 18 Countries in 4 Continents around the world with local Homeshare programmes and who are members of Homeshare International. These Countries include North America, many European Countries, Japan, Korea, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The 6th World Homeshare Congress took place in Belgium and local Homeshare programme 1 Toit Deux Ages hosted and welcomed 200 speakers and delegates from 17 Countries. They were even honoured by the attendance of Her Majesty Queen Mathilde of The Belgians. We have big shoes to fill in following on from the superb Congress in Belgium and we hope our President, Michael D Higgins will accept our invitation to Dublin Castle to support and welcome our delegates from all around the World.

“Homeshare International is delighted to announce that the **7th World Homeshare Congress** – originally planned for 2021 but delayed due to Covid-19 – is going ahead. It will take place May 25-26, 2023 at **Dublin Castle** in Dublin, Ireland hosted by local organisation THE HomeShare, and supported by Ireland’s Department of Health.

The opening reception will take place on Wednesday May 24th with congress sessions on Thursday May 25th and Friday 26th May 2023. Enjoy the Gala dinner on the night of Thursday 25th May.

Founder and CEO of THE HomeShare Lucie Cunningham says, *“We believe Ireland is well placed to host this exciting event. It will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase Ireland as the Irish Government is among the first in the world to incorporate the Homeshare model into its policy development. THE HomeShare looks forward to welcoming our peers from around the world to share ideas and celebrate the resilience of Homeshare “.*

“Homeshare is resilient to meet the needs of local populations; the support provided through Homeshare can increase people’s resilience.” Homeshare International.

***** For information on becoming a supporter or sponsor of the Congress, please see appendix**

Awards

Excellence in Public Sector Homecare Services Support Award The Public Sector Magazine 2021



THE HomeShare were honoured to be awarded two Awards this year. The first of which for Excellence in Public Sector Homecare Services Support Award, awarded by THE Public Sector Magazine – The magazine for Public Sector Services and Decision Makers.

The Public Sector Magazine is a quarterly publication which is distributed to all Departments in the Public Sector, Semi-State Bodies and the Civil Service. It provides an important platform for key decision makers in Ireland and keeps them informed of the latest news, products and services which are available to them. Employing over 300,000 Public Sector workers, it represents an important market which offers considerable potential to Irish companies and service providers.

Republic of Ireland Prestige Awards – Homecare provider of the year Republic of Ireland

2021-2022



The Prestige Awards team conducted extensive research to identify the major cities and regions around the world with a vibrant SME community and independent scene. Believing that SME businesses are the backbone of any economy, Osmaan Mahmood, Founder & CEO of Prestige Awards, said: “Although small businesses may not be able to compete with multinational companies on their size and scale, there is a personalised service-driven focus that is often void from large organisations.”

THE HomeShare was overjoyed to have been nominated, (unbeknown to us!) and to win was just phenomenal. THE HomeShare Team take great pride in their efforts to provide a bespoke, person-centred service, and to be recognised for this gives further meaning to our cause.

Testimonials

"It is a wonderful opportunity to be able to home share, particularly now with the price of rent being so high. It doesn't feel like I am renting, more so like I am living at home!"

"I find Lucie and Niamh to be very professional and at all times puts the older person at the centre of everything which is wonderful. They are so good at what they do."

"Many thanks for setting up The Homeshare for my Mum, it has given me great peace of mind."

"HomeShare has been a very positive experience, I would recommend it to anyone who would be interested."

"Thanks for giving me such a good opportunity to live with an Elderly Couple and your kind support throughout all the months."

"It's an excellent programme and we are absolutely thrilled with match. An angel has entered our lives."

"The service has provided an opportunity to have meaningful engagements and interactions with the Homeowner. It offers a foundation for the opportunity positive friendships and meaningful memories. I for one am very grateful to have been involved."

"I am so happy with Homeshare. Niamh and Lucie are incredibly competent, professional, reassuring and easy to deal with. We were a bit nervous having someone we didn't know come and live with our Mum but we needn't have

worried, it is so well organised. We cannot recommend them enough. A fantastic service!"

"Many thanks for this homeshare, you have a fantastic company with excellent backup 🤝👍🙌"

"Amazing service and support system to families. Keep up the great work."

"Homesharing has and continues to be such a lovely, caring, warm and worthwhile social initiative for me the sharer as well as the homeowners. My wellbeing and mental health is so good and I feel so much more happy and comfortable with my life because of my living arrangements with my homeowners, whom I now regard as family!! I encourage many more renters as possible to consider home sharing. Thanks, Seán Tierney"

"Homeshare is the best thing we have ever done it's improved our relative's quality of life immensely"

"Great service. So glad we found you."

"Absolutely fabulous facility."

"We would be lost without our homesharer"

"Lucie and her Team are excellent and genuinely caring people"

Appendix

7th World Homeshare Congress. Dublin Castle. May 24-26th 2023

For more information on the Congress: whether you would like to register your attendance or to support or sponsor the Congress, please log on to;

<https://worldhomesharecongress.org/>

<https://thehomeshare.ie/>

<https://homeshare.org/>



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