

Where do people live?

A questionnaire for helpers



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Introduction

This questionnaire is a companion to the social story/activity book “Where do people live?” Its purpose is to provide background information for those about to create a **housing** vision through person-centered planning. It is therefore focused on housing, and is not a substitute for broader person-centered planning.

The questionnaire does **not** focus on identifying needed supports or calculating affordability. These issues are addressed in depth by Autism Housing Pathways’ free day-long workshop on housing, “Learning about housing”. The questionnaire presupposes the answers to these questions are already known.

You are filling out this questionnaire on behalf of a person with disabilities who loves and trusts you. As someone who knows the person very well, you are being asked to answer the questions **with his or her preferences in mind, not your own**. To the greatest extent possible, try to get input from the person in answering the questions.

1 – What is the person's lifestyle?

The person's sleep habits are:

Is the person neat or sloppy?

Does the person like to keep to him or herself?

Does the person like to do things with others?

Does the person like to watch other people?

Does the person have trouble sharing attention?

Favorite foods:

Disliked foods:

Favorite TV shows and movies:

Disliked TV shows and movies:

Favorite music:

Disliked music:

Favorite video/computer games:

Disliked video/computer games:

Favorite places to go:

Disliked places to go:

Does the person like to go places every day, to go places a few times a week, or to stay home a lot?

What habits does the person have that might bother housemates or neighbors?

What habits might bother the person if a housemate has them?

What habits does the living space need to accommodate (examples might be pacing, jumping, making loud noises)?

2 – What should be close by?

What activities does the person like to participate in (examples might be bowling, ice skating, swimming, etc.)?

Where does the person like to go (examples might be the beach, the mall, church, fast food restaurants, the zoo, etc.)?

3 – Who needs to be part of the person’s life?

Family:

Friends:

Acquaintances (an example might be someone who participates in the same activity):

Paid participants (examples are doctors, staff, etc.):

4 – What kind of community?

Would the person like living in a city?

What would work well for the person in a city?

What would be difficult?

Would the person like living in a town center?

What would work well for the person in a town center?

What would be difficult?

Would the person like living in a suburb?

What would work well for the person in a suburb?

What would be difficult?

Would the person like living in the country?

What would work well for the person in the country?

What would be difficult?

5 – What kind of building?

Would the person like living in a **house**?

What would work well for the person in a house?

What would be difficult?

Is a house impossible for financial reasons?

Would the person like living in a **duplex or multifamily**?

What would work well for the person in a duplex or multifamily?

What would be difficult?

Would the person like living in an **apartment building**?

What would work well for the person in an apartment building?

What would be difficult?

Would a small apartment building work better than a large one?

6 – What kind of unit?

Does the person need someone to live in to provide support?

Would a housemate or housemates be needed for financial reasons?

Is a housemate preferred for social reasons?

Does the person need his or her own bathroom?

Would it be preferable for the person to have his or her own food prep and storage area (including a refrigerator and cabinets), separate from a shared kitchen?

7 – What else is important?

Are there accessibility features the person needs (examples might be a ramp, a roll in shower, visual alarms, soundproofing in the bedroom)?

Are there any other “must haves” (examples might be proximity to public transportation, ground floor unit, quiet street, yard, pet-friendly)?