

Delivering great outcomes for individuals, and helping money go (much) further



What is Shared Lives?

An established and highly successful model, Shared Lives enables people who need support to live in a family home within their local community. It is a partnership between a local agency (a Shared Lives **Scheme**) and local individuals and families (Shared Lives **Carers**). Shared Lives arrangements have been common in the UK for over 30 years.

Shared Lives is extremely cost effective for individuals and for public bodies. This way of providing support produces great outcomes for individuals and helps them, and public bodies, make good use of their money.

In Shared Lives:

- 1** The Schemes are responsible for making sure the Shared Lives Carers are safe and have all the skills and knowledge they need to provide people with high quality support. Schemes receive referrals, match the needs of service users with Carers, and monitor the arrangements.
- 2** Shared Lives Carers help people to connect in their local community. They use their own friendship, family and community networks to benefit the people that they support. Shared Lives Carers provide many different services including:
 - long term accommodation and support
 - short breaks
 - day support
 - 'extended family' support to people living in their own homesWhatever the service, sharing family life is always part of the deal
- 3** Shared Lives arrangements are based on relationships which are important to everyone involved. Shared Lives Carers say that they get as much as they give
- 4** Shared Lives arrangements are very individual and always 'co-produced'

The Business Case

Improvement and Efficiency South East recently published the results of a piece of research carried out in partnership with NAAPS UK. It demonstrates:

- **High levels of Satisfaction**
Because of the high quality and personalised nature of Shared Lives arrangements, the people involved in those arrangements express high levels of satisfaction.
- **Reduced Costs**
The total cost of a Shared Lives arrangement is significantly less than the cost of other types of support service with similar objectives (eg: The potential saving for someone with learning disabilities in a Shared Lives arrangement rather than residential care is £650pw).

Therefore, the Shared Lives way of providing support not only produces great outcomes for individuals, it also helps them and public bodies make good use of their money.

Don't lose out by limiting the Shared Lives service you offer

Many local areas have Shared Lives Schemes, but they are often small scale and marginalised, or provide support to a limited group or in a limited way. Individuals, communities and public bodies lose out where Schemes are limited in the services that they provide and the people that they serve.

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Supporting the development of Shared Lives

How Community Catalysts can help...

Community Catalysts is a social enterprise and the wholly owned subsidiary of NAAPS UK, the charity that has been representing and supporting Shared Lives in the UK for nearly 20 years.

We are passionate about the outcomes that can be delivered through Shared Lives and draw upon the experience and knowledge built up by NAAPS to help public bodies and local Schemes looking to develop and extend their local Shared Lives service.

Our experience and skills are a resource for local authority staff and teams wanting to ensure that as many people as possible have access to high quality Shared Lives support.

We can give you tools that will make a real difference to people's lives.



Cost?

Each master class costs **£250** per delegate. The total costs of a master class series is therefore **£1,250**

Why Master Classes?

This series of five master classes is a recession-busting way of giving Commissioners and Shared Lives Schemes the knowledge and skills needed to develop and extend their Shared Lives service.

The effectiveness of this approach has been demonstrated in the south east where Community Catalysts has worked with seven local authorities to extend their Shared Lives service to great success.

How do they work?

The series runs over 5 months and class sizes are limited to 10 people.

Successful applicants must have senior level support from their local authority and demonstrable commitment to expanding their local Shared Lives service. Applicants must also be able to commit to attend all master classes and to complete homework tasks between classes.

Community Catalysts can offer additional individual help to local authorities or schemes needing extra support.

Want to know more?

If you are interested in knowing more please contact **Sian Lockwood OBE**, Chief Executive, Community Catalysts C.I.C. at sian.lockwood@communitycatalysts.co.uk or go to our website www.communitycatalysts.co.uk

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