Virtual Independent Housing Workshop Series

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services’ (DBHDS) Office of Community Housing invites individuals residing in group homes to attend a three-part workshop series to learn more about independent housing and the resources available to help people with developmental disabilities in the Settlement Agreement population* rent their own homes and receive supports to live independently.

**Workshop #1 “Independent Housing – Where People Live”** – Participants will take virtual housing tours using Zoom to learn about:
- four different independent housing arrangements in the community
- how these arrangements are similar and different

**Date:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
**Time:** 3pm – 4pm

**Workshop #2 “Housing Panel Interviews and Discussion”** - Participants will learn from peers who live in independent housing:
- more information on what the four independent housing arrangements are like
- steps individuals took to create these housing arrangements
- how these arrangements are different from their prior living arrangements
- lessons they learned when transitioning from their prior living arrangements to their current ones.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021  
**Time:** 3pm – 4pm

**Workshop #3 “My Dream Home”** – Participants will:
- discuss what they learned in Sessions 1 and 2
- share which housing arrangements they would like to learn more about
- learn how to talk with support coordinators about their preferred housing arrangement

**Date:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021  
**Time:** 3pm – 4pm

DBHDS recommends that participants attend all 3 sessions to better understand their independent housing options and to determine which option might be right for them.

**RSVP:** Please register by Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at the following link to participate in this 3-part Information Session - Series:  

*If you need a reasonable accommodation, please email your request at least 7 days before the session date to: kimberly.rogers@dbhds.virginia.gov*

*Settlement Agreement population includes individuals who are 18 years of age or older, and either: living in a training center, intermediate care or nursing facility and meet the Level of Functioning for a DD Waiver; receiving Medicaid DD Waiver services (e.g., group home, in-home support, personal assistance, companion services, integrated day or employment services, etc.); or on a waiting list for Medicaid DD Waiver services.*