



**SOMETIMES THE  
SMARTEST MOVE IS  
NOT MOVING AT ALL**

A Front Porch  
Community Service





# HOME MATCH

## FRONT PORCH'S SHARED HOUSING PROGRAM

### Front Porch Provides:

- 30+ Affordable Housing Communities
  - 19 Market Rate Retirement Communities
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### Three Categories of Support:

- Housing
  - Social Connection
  - Creative Aging
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### Five Community Service Programs:

- Well Connected
- Well Connected Español
- Creative Spark
- Ruth's Table
- Home Match





# WHAT IS HOME SHARING?

Renting a Room in a Home or Apartment  
or ADU on a Property

## Economic Support:

Increased income for providers through rent and  
affordable market rate rent for seekers

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## Social Support:

Combat social isolation and support aging in place  
through companionship, task exchange and  
increased social connections

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## Affordable Housing:

Access to affordable market rate housing options



# WHAT DO HOME-SHARING PROGRAMS DO?

## Risk Mitigation & Proactive Engagement

Our match making process is designed to mitigate risk and maximize benefits through the process living together, and our ongoing support is designed to proactively address substantive problems to avoid escalation into affective problems.

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### Make the Process Easy & Comfortable:

- Ensuring rooms are ready for move-in
  - Listing rooms and fielding inquiries
  - Vetting participants
  - Compatible Matching
  - Facilitating development of lease agreements
  - Ongoing match support
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### Create Housing Stock:

By providing ongoing support to all our participants, including older adults, families, and other vulnerable populations, concerns lessen, and home-sharing becomes a viable option.



# WHY HOME SHARING

## We Can't Build Enough:

Building affordable housing is costly and time consuming—we can't build enough fast enough. Shared housing allows us to leverage existing infrastructure to meet our housing needs.

## Cost Burdened Older Adults:

42% of Bay Area residents over the age of 65 are cost burdened, spending over 30% of income on rent. [1]

*Given the significant health consequences of loneliness and isolation, we must **prioritize building social connection** the same way we have prioritized other critical public health issues"*

-U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy

## Social Isolation:

*"Although it's hard to measure social isolation and loneliness precisely, there is strong evidence that many adults aged 50 and older are socially isolated or lonely in ways that put their health at risk." [2]*

*"Social isolation significantly increased a person's risk of premature death from all causes, a risk that may rival those of smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity"[2], and social isolation was associated with about a 50% increased risk of dementia. [2]*

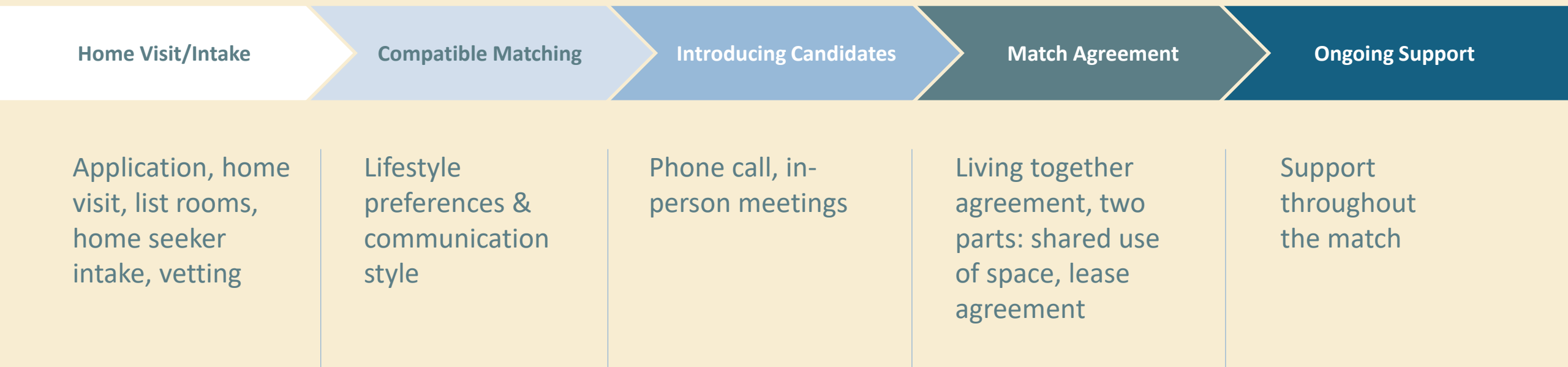
(1) <https://www.jchs.harvard.edu/older-adults-2023-cost-burdens>

(2) <https://www.cdc.gov/aging/publications/features/lonely-older-adults.html>





# HOME MATCH PROCESS





# PROFILE OF SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPANTS

## Home Providers:

- Healthy communication
- Task exchange, not caregiving
- Adaptability

## Home Seekers:

- Healthy communication
- Affordability
- Not emergency housing
- Supportive/stable housemate





# MATCH STORY: SAN FRANCISCO

## Excerpt from Gary and Richard's interview in the SF Chronicle:

"Because of [Home Match's] vetting, Gary and Richard say, they've found that respecting each other's space and co-existing is no problem.

"If I wasn't able to take in a roommate like this, I'd have to leave this city — maybe go live with family in Los Angeles," Gary said. "And I don't want to go there. I love San Francisco. This is my home, and this is how I stay here."

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/sf/article/housing-homeless-roommate-18363461.php>



≡ San Francisco Chronicle

**Bay Area housing crisis: S.F. plays roommate  
matchmaker to prevent homelessness**





# MATCH STORY: SAN FRANCISCO

## Blanca and Alma

Blanca and Alma agree they would not have found each other without Home Match. When Blanca—an older adult and widow who was living alone—contacted the program, she felt “protected and supported.”

Blanca needed to pay for home repairs and saw home-sharing as an opportunity for supplemental income. Working with Home Match staff who could meet with her in-person and communicate with her in Spanish, Blanca felt more at ease with the process.





# MATCH STORY: ALAMEDA

## Carmencita and Glen

“Two music-lovers were matched and now make the perfect duet. Carmencita is a retired concert pianist and piano teacher, and Glen sings in his local church choir. At the signing of their match agreement, the two even held an impromptu concert – Carmencita accompanied Glen as he sang a few songs for the lucky Home Match staff.

Their match has been in perfect harmony ever since: “When he [Glen] is at a grocery store, he sends a text to ask what I need,” Carmencita says. “Thanks to Home Match, I found a good house companion and friend.” Glen shares her sentiment: “Thank you, Home Match, for matching me with someone who is kind and considerate. [...] This is a miracle that I found someone so similar to my personality.”





# MATCH STORY: CONTRA COSTA

## A Family Matched

After living in the same home for over five years, the family, along with their beloved pit bull, found themselves in need of new housing. A generous homeowner in El Sobrante had two rooms available and, when asked if she would consider hosting a family of three, she didn't hesitate to say yes. But the story gets even better—she also welcomed their dog into her home without a second thought.

After their first meeting, the homeowner joyfully shared, “I loooove them! The dog too! I’m going to adopt them into my family.”





# MATCH STORY: MARIN

## Linda and Da'Shonda, from the Marin IJ:

From the Marin IJ: After Linda's husband died in December, the Marin fashion consultant found herself in need of both companionship and help with expenses. "To hold onto my house, I had to have a roommate," said Linda, 71, who has lived in Marinwood for 32 years [...]

[When] Linda met Da'Shonda, a 49-year-old academic counselor at San Francisco State University, they quickly felt a bond. "We are like best friends," Linda said. Da'Shonda agrees. "There's such synergy," [she] said.

<https://www.marinij.com/2023/04/16/marin-nonprofit-connects-homeowners-renters-amid-housing-squeeze/>





# CONTACT US

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# THE WAY TO STAY

A Front Porch  
Community Service

