

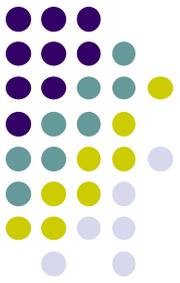


# **SHARE and ECHO Housing: Non-Traditional Housing Options for Older Adults**

**August 22, 2019**

**Presented by:  
Helen Kelly**

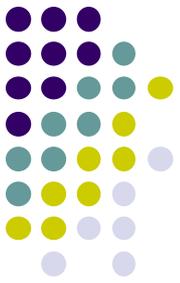
**Diana T. Myers & Associates, Inc.**



# Overview

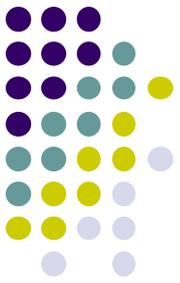
- **SHARE / ECHO MODELS**
  - Commonalities of both
  - Definitions
  - Additional Benefits
  - Current Pilots

# SHARE/ECHO Commonalities



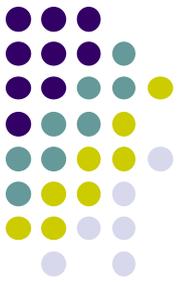
- Offer Affordability
  - Affordable housing options (home seeker or cottage resident will pay no more than 30% of their gross income on rent)
  - Provide below market rate rents
  - Help older adult meet housing costs
  - Potential to leverage other affordable programs

# SHARE/ECHO Commonalities

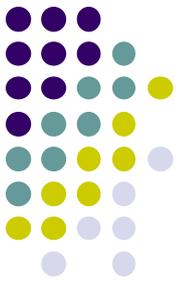


- Enable Aging in Place
  - SHARE and ECHO address changing demographics and changing housing markets (AARP: 9 out of 10 prefer to age in place)
  - Provide an opportunity for resource exchange that enable older adults to prevent or defer institutionalization
  - Provide savings to the healthcare system as older adults age in place

# SHARE/ECHO Commonalities



- Self-determination
  - Choice
  - Control
- Developed with local AAA, PA Dept. of Aging and Diana T. Myers and Associates, Inc. (PDA housing consultant)



# SHARE & ECHO models

Digging deeper...

What are they?

What additional benefits do they offer?

Where are the current pilots?



# Definition of SHARE

## (Shared Housing and Resource Exchange)

- SHARE is an affordable housing choice that brings together homeowners who want to share their home with home seekers who are looking for housing in exchange for rent, help around the house, or a combination of both.





# Definition of SHARE

## (Shared Housing and Resource Exchange)

- Home seekers receive their own bedroom and agreed upon use of the common areas. Every arrangement is unique depending on the needs, preferences, and abilities of the participants involved.
- SHARE participants must be at least 18 years of age & one of the individuals in the match must be over 60.





# Benefits of SHARE Model

- Flexible
  - Can serve people of all ages and incomes
  - Older adults, persons with disabilities, veterans, working professionals, college students, individuals at-risk of homelessness, single parents, or people simply wishing to share their lives and homes with others are all eligible.

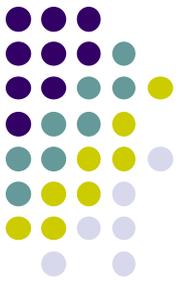


# Benefits of SHARE Model

## ● Cost Effective

- Uses existing housing
- Provides supplemental income for older adults for taxes, maintenance, repairs and other housing costs
- Either or both parties can offer services
  - Host can prepare meals or provide house-keeping
  - Sharer can do shopping, rake leaves, mow lawn or remove snow

# Benefits of SHARE Model



- Companionship



- Neighborhood Stabilization

- Reduces turnover, foreclosures, vacancies, and conversions that affect stability and property values



# SHARE Pilot

- Program for Pike, Wayne and Monroe Counties
- Developed by three AAA's with assistance from the PA Department of Aging and Diana T. Myers and Associates, Inc., PDA housing consultant
- 2 SHARE Housing Counselors across the three counties
- Just started 3<sup>rd</sup> year of operation
- 24 matches in 24 months
- 35 older adults served



# SHARE Pilot

- SHARE Housing Counselors
  - Perform community outreach and marketing
  - Conduct reference and background checks
  - Identify potential home share matches through a *screening process*
  - Introduce the home hosts and home sharers
  - Oversee trial *periods* to determine compatibility
  - Coordinate the written Homesharing Agreement
  - Provide ongoing support during the term of the agreement
  - Connect the participants to other community resources

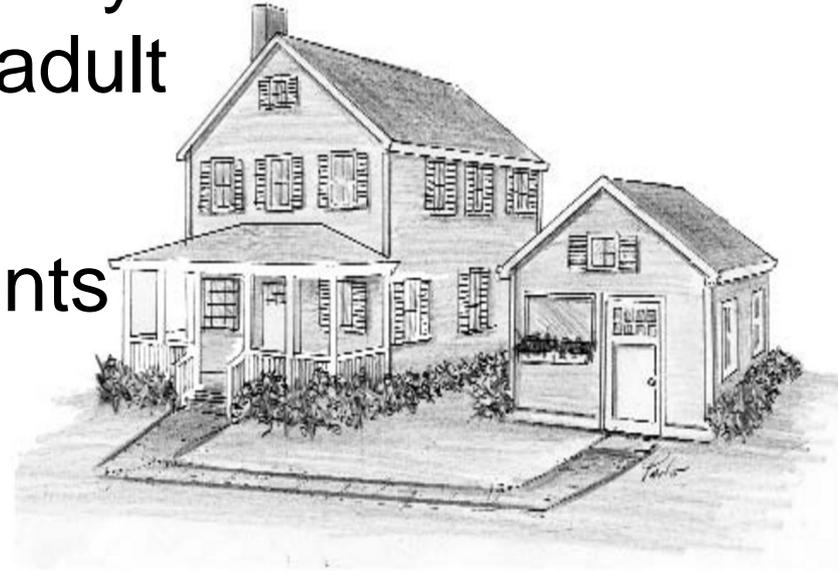
# Questions ?





# Definition of ECHO (Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity)

- Elder cottages are small, separate, manufactured residences that are temporarily placed in the side or rear yard of a host family, related by blood or marriage, for an older adult
- When living requirements change, the ECHO Cottage is removed



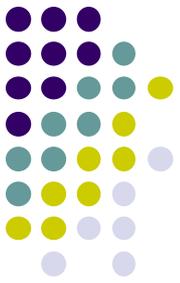


# ECHO Model Benefits

- ECHO cottages provide safety and autonomy for older adults
- Provides easy access to family members who can provide assistance
- Both the older adult and the host family maintain their privacy and dignity
- Stress on family caregivers is reduced and family cohesiveness is preserved

# ECHO Model Benefits

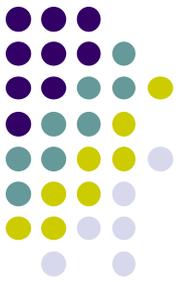
- Cost Effective
- Affordable



# ECHO Pilots

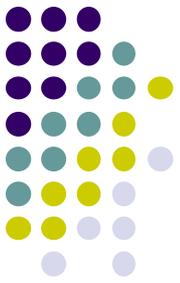
- Clearfield County
  - First ECHO placed
  - Second cottage acquiring funding
- Westmoreland
  - ECHO in planning stages
- Both AAAs have strong collaborations with Community Action Agencies/Non-profits





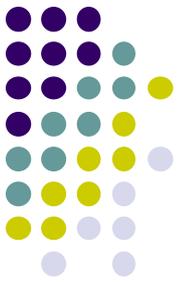
# ECHO Pilots

- Role of the AAA
  - Vets inquiries
  - Completes preliminary application
  - Determines eligibility and feasibility with host and older adult
  - Determines next steps



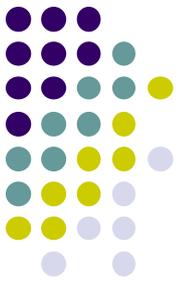
# ECHO Pilots

- Host Responsibilities
  - Maintain property
  - Allow utility hook up to main house
  - Permit cottage inspection
  - Provide a good faith deposit, if required



# ECHO Pilots

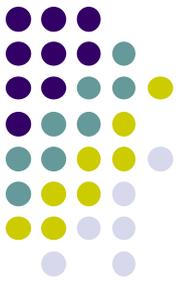
- Older Adult Responsibilities
  - Provide income verification
  - Sign lease agreement
  - Rental payment
  - Cottage upkeep



# ECHO Pilots

- Partner Responsibilities
  - Own and Manage the cottage
  - Sign lease agreement
  - Collect Rent
  - Re-verify income and adjust rent
  - Inspect cottage
  - Address zoning
  - Arrange placement, removal and storage of cottage

# Questions ?



Thoughts? Comments? Concerns?

# Conclusion



SHARE and ECHO provide additional choices of affordable housing alternatives for older adults allowing them to age in place

