

# FRIENDLY HOUSEMATES APPLICATION



## ST. GEORGE STREET BEAMSVILLE

#### FRIENDLY HOUSEMATES TENANT APPLICATION ST. GEORGE STREET, BEAMSVILLE

The desire for quality, affordable housing in West Niagara is a goal shared by many of its residents, and the need for community connections, belonging and purpose in the way we live is shared by most. They are fundamental elements of what it means to be human and contributing citizens. Time and circumstance influence the applicability of these ideals for any person considering a shared living experience. Apart from the need for accommodations, the biggest challenges for transition to successful independent living for people who have an intellectual disability are isolation, safety and security. *Friendly Housemates*, by virtue of their presence, serve as a social safety net for everyone in the home and are key in the development of new relationships, interests, and skills.

The way in which community is created and how each person participates in its development is not based on a time commitment, it is not scripted, and it is not formally monitored. It is measured more in the self-evident culture that is created over time within the home. It demonstrates a culture of belonging, of shared living, friendship, dignity, and safety.

#### Friendly Housemates – St. George Street

Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln is accepting applications for a three-bedroom, two storey semi-detached home in Beamsville that is part of an intentional housing model known as Friendly Housemates. It is primarily intended for the provision of supportive, affordable housing for people who have an intellectual disability who are interested in a shared living experience with a community member.

Individual applications are currently being considered. Ideally, a Friendly Housemate is someone that is sensitive, accepting, caring, and has an appreciation for the struggles people with a disability face and an understanding of the principles of basic human rights. Rent is set by the landlord at an affordable rate and inclusive of all utilities. Occupancy will commence in October of 2019.

It is the intent of Friendly Housemates to promote a sense of belonging, address issues of loneliness and isolation among the tenants, and ensure the safety of all who live in the home. Tenants may engage in activities of mutual interest – things like cooking together, watching movies, or visiting the grocery store. The home is spacious and is situated on a quiet street. It will be shared by two people who have an intellectual disability and one community member. Tenants will have their own spacious bedroom and share all common areas including kitchen, living room, main floor laundry room, and

garage. Fridge, dishwasher, stove, washer, dryer and window coverings are provided. There is a large private patio and fenced backyard at the rear of the home. Contents insurance is mandatory for all tenants.

In exchange for affordable rent, all tenants agree to assist in the development of the community within the home and to be part of creating a safe and secure environment. In short, caring people who are concerned for the well-being of their fellow housemates.

Friendly housemates who do not have an intellectual disability are members of the community, not paid staff. The people requiring assistance to live independently are responsible for the provision of those supports; direct support professionals from Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln who assist people in that capacity inside the home. Support staff also facilitate communication between the tenants so that they can better understand one another's needs and perspectives. Community members are not to perform specific day-to-day tasks for others, such as personal care, meal preparation, cleaning, and medication administration.

The application process includes the completion of a one-page profile (*What you need to know about me*), an interview and screening process, and the provision of a criminal reference check suitable for a person involved in the vulnerable sector. Tenants are asked to become volunteers of Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln and, in doing so, will have their criminal reference check, First Aid/CPR, and training in nonviolent crisis intervention paid for by the agency.

#### About Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln

Founded in 1965 by concerned community members and families, Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln is a not-for-profit organization that offers a wide range of programs and services for people who have intellectual disabilities. Today, the agency supports over 300 people of all ages, and we advocate for their full participation, inclusion, dignity and citizenship.

#### **Application Requirements**

Potential tenants interested in applying to Friendly Housemates must provide the following items as part of their application package:

- 1. A completed application form provided in this document.
- 2. One-page profile provided in this document.
- 3. Two letters of reference; their contact information must be provided on the application form.

- 4. Clear and valid vulnerable sector police check no older than one year must be presented in order to be considered for an interview. It is recommended that interested applicants complete this step immediately as checks can take up to eight weeks to process. A new police check will be reimbursed by the agency.
- 5. Proof of First Aid/CPR certification. If not available, the agency will assume the cost of training and certification.

For more further or to apply, please contact:

#### **Becky Harris**

Supported Independent Living Supervisor Community Living Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln Office phone: 905-563-4115 ext. 252 Cellphone: 905-401-6982 Email: <u>bharris@cl-grimsbylincoln.ca</u>

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First Aid/CPRNon-violent Crisis Intervention

Vulnerable Sector Police Check

#### **APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name:							
Date of birth:		Phone:					
Current address:							
City:		Province:		Postal Code	e:		
Previous address:							
City:		Province:		Postal Code:			
Owned Rented (Please circle)		Monthly payment or rent:		How long?			
EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION							
Current employer:							
Employer address:			How long?				
Phone:	E-mail:	il:		Fax:			
City:		Province:		Postal Code:			
Position:		Hourly Salary (Please circle)		Annual income:			
Previous employer:							
Address:				How long?			
Phone:	E-mail:	E-mail:			Fax:		
City:		Province:		Postal Code:			
Position:		Hourly Salary (Please circle)		Annual income:			
REFERENCE 1							
Name:							
Address:				Phone:			
City:		Province:		Postal Code:			
Relationship: Email:							
REFERENCE 2							
Name:							
Address:			Phone:				
City:		Province:		Postal Code:			
Relationship:		Email:					
EMERGENCY CONTACT 1			EMERGENCY CONTACT 2				
Name:			Name:				
Phone:			Phone:				
Alternative Phone:			Alternative Phone:				
Signature of applicant				Date			

## One-page profile

Your Name	Age	
What people appreciate about me	What is important to me	How to support me