

Community Living

Approved Private-service Home Program

What is Community Living Service Delivery?

Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD) is a branch of Disability Programs for the Ministry of Social Services. CLSD staff work with people experiencing intellectual disabilities and help them access a variety of community-based services.

CLSD staff work to ensure that the physical, emotional and social needs of people experiencing intellectual disabilities are met and that they are able to live as independently as possible within their own communities.

What is the Approved Private-service Home program (APSH)?

The purpose of the APSH program is to provide a supportive family-living environment for individuals experiencing intellectual disabilities, who may also have physical disabilities. These homes enable residents to experience family life in a community setting with the opportunity to develop social, recreational and living skills according to their ability.

APSHs are a resource for adults. An individual must be at least 18 years old to live in an APSH and must also be eligible to receive CLSD services.

Every APSH in Saskatchewan is certified under *The Residential Services Act and The Private-service Homes Regulations*.

What is expected of a home proprietor?

The proprietor of an APSH must be willing to provide a variety of supports to people with intellectual disabilities. They will:

- provide a warm family environment;
- participate in the Person-Centred Planning process to help individuals realize their goals, dreams and aspirations and enhance development and quality of life;
- support individuals in making choices and experience a meaningful life;
- help individuals learn daily living skills;
- provide opportunities for leisure and recreation;
- support the individual in his/her spiritual and cultural expression;
- help individuals manage their money and assist in keeping accurate financial and medical records on their behalf;
- help individuals make and keep dental, medical and other appointments;
- make sure medication is provided as prescribed by a doctor;
- work with community agencies involved with the individual;
- help individuals maintain relationships with their families (visits, letters, cards, etc.);
- provide and encourage a healthy diet and lifestyle;
- support individuals with community inclusion and participation;
- provide support and advocate for individuals regarding their day-to-day concerns and problems;

- share information with CLSD as required; and
- understand and respect the need to keep information about individuals confidential.

When and how much are Approved Private-service Home proprietors paid?

Proprietors are paid on a monthly basis by the Ministry of Social Services. The payment amount depends on the level of care and support the individual requires.

Information about the current rates is available through CLSD offices.

How does one become certified?

APSHs are certified under *The Residential Services Act* and *The Private-service Homes Regulations*. To become certified, you must:

- complete an application;
- take part in a home-study process, which will involve all members of your family living in your home; this process can take three to six months to complete;
- complete a criminal record check and a vulnerable sector search, and ensure everyone in the home who is 18 and over also completes a criminal record check;
- provide a list of references;

- reside in the home you wish to have certified; and
- ensure the home meets provincial health and fire regulations.

Here's what people who operate APSHs say:

"It is rewarding knowing I have played a part in bettering the everyday lives of my residents."

"The people I care for know I will be there for them."

"It is rewarding to hear my residents say—'I love staying here. This is my home.'

If all of the certification requirements are met and there is a need for APSHs in your area, your home will be certified.

Saskatchewan Approved Private Homes, Inc.

Saskatchewan Approved Private Homes, Inc. (SAPH Inc.) is an umbrella organization that represents all APSHs in Saskatchewan and provides information, education and support. Each region has a local executive and members who provide information to the provincial executive on matters relating to caregivers throughout the province. Information regarding SAPH Inc. is available through CLSD offices.

For further information, contact the Community Living Service Delivery office nearest you:

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| Estevan | 306-637-4550 | Prince Albert | 306-953-2668 |
| La Ronge | 306-425-4552 | Regina | 306-787-3848 |
| Lloydminster | 306-825-6410 | Saskatoon | 306-933-6300 |
| Melfort | 306-752-6100 | Swift Current | 306-778-8219 |
| Moose Jaw | 306-694-3800 | Weyburn | 306-848-2404 |
| Nipawin | 306-862-1704 | Yorkton | 306-786-1300 |
| North Battleford | 306-446-7705 | | |