



# Community Forum

## “Homesharing: Exploring an Innovative Housing Option for Older Adults”

**LifePath**, in partnership with **Albany Guardian Society**, will host the virtual forum *Homesharing: Exploring an Innovative Housing Option for Older Adults* on **April 27, 2021** from **9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.** Learn more about homesharing programs and participate in the discussion as we explore the possibility of starting a home-sharing program in the Capital Region.

The phrase “home is where the heart is” captures the sentiments of many older adults when it comes to making choices about where they live as they age. Population projections indicate that by 2030, one in five people will be age 65 or older, so communities must prepare for the housing and service needs of this aging population. Several new and innovative approaches to senior living options have emerged in recent years, including “homesharing”.

Homesharing, or shared housing, is a unique and common-sense approach to help seniors age in place. Homesharing is an arrangement where two or more unrelated people share a dwelling (often a single-family home), each having a private bedroom and shared common areas. Shared housing can provide a homeowner, as well as the home sharer, with access to affordable housing, shared household expenses, and mutual support. Homesharing programs have been gaining national recognition as an affordable housing opportunity that can provide individuals, in particular seniors and singles, with financial relief as well as companionship.

- New York State Office for the Aging Director, **Greg Olsen**, will kick off the Forum with an overview of the many challenges faced by aging New Yorkers, including the housing options that are available.
- **Kirby Dunn**, Executive Director of HomeShare Vermont, and **Alison Joucovsky**, Founder and Executive Director of Sunshine Home Share Colorado, will share their experience starting and maintaining a shared housing program.

### To Register:

While there is no cost to attend, registration is required by **April 25, 2021. You may register by:**

- **Email** Albany Guardian Society at [ags@albanyguardiansociety.org](mailto:ags@albanyguardiansociety.org). Please note “April 27th forum” in the subject line.
- **Call** Albany Guardian Society at 518-434-2140.
- **Online** at [www.albanyguardiansociety.org](http://www.albanyguardiansociety.org).

**Date:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Virtual Forum through Zoom



### Greg Olsen

Greg is the Acting Director of the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA). He is responsible for the development, implementation, and administration of programs and policies that help older New Yorkers. Greg is leading the effort to combat ageism, generalizations, and stereotypes about what aging is and demonstrating the value of the older population to their families, communities, and the state.



### Kirby Dunn

Kirby has been the Executive Director of HomeShare Vermont since 2000 where she has transitioned the program to a stand-alone organization. Before coming to HomeShare Vermont she was the Director of Homeownership Programs for the Champlain Housing Trust. Kirby is currently the President for the National Shared Housing Resource Center (NSHRC) and is also a Trustee for Homeshare International.



### Alison Leventhal Joucovsky, MA LPC

Alison has been working in the field of aging for over 30 years. She has a degree in Human Development with a specialization in aging and a Master’s degree in Counseling Psychology specializing as a Geriatric therapist. In 2015 she founded and became Executive Director of Sunshine Home Share Colorado. She is on the Board of Directors of the National Shared Housing Research Center and recently partnered with the Anschutz School of Aging and Policy and Veterans Administration to complete a nationwide research project on shared housing programs.

### Sponsored By:

**LifePath**   
Supportive Services for Older Adults

**AGS** **Albany Guardian Society**

  
B'nai B'rith Gideon Foundation

**LifePath** is a non-profit organization serving older adults in the Capital region whose mission is “Keeping our older neighbors and friends healthy and safe by providing effective programs and supports to help them stay connected to our communities.”

Founded in 1852, the mission of the **Albany Guardian Society** is to improve the lives of seniors in the Capital Region, their families, and their caregivers, through information, education, research and collaboration.