

HOUSING TOOLKIT

This toolkit is an invitation to join us as we collaborate in addressing this massive, complex problem together.

Housing is the most urgent and most agreed-upon issue facing adults with autism in Utah. AA21 Utah is working to create a state where all individuals have access to neuro-inclusive, accessible, affordable housing. Here are some insights on how you can join us in this collaborative, growing movement.

Precariousness of Unmet Housing Needs

“So you know, sometimes I look at a social interaction, or I look at trying to figure out a complex problem like how to find housing, and I see a saber-toothed Tiger. It feels too big. Me and my mom had this whole conversation last night about, ‘What do I do now? How do I find housing that is affordable?’ I probably can’t afford to not have a roommate, but finding roommates who will be good and who understand my autism is so hard. The housing market is just kind of terrible right now in general. So, it kind of feels impossible, as I’m looking at my lease running out at the end of May. It’s scary.”

- Leo, interview participant

What Does Autism-Friendly Housing Look Like?

It looks like having choices so every person can find their unique place in the world.

The Security of Having Housing Needs Met

So I’m very lucky now. I get provided an apartment through my job. Before, I was living with roommates, usually two or three of them, because you know, that’s how you can afford it, you have to split costs with somebody else. But currently, I have my own place with its own washer, dryer. My job pays for it all, which makes it possible for me to budget for other things in the future. I’m paying down debts faster than I ever did. So I’m in a very fortunate situation that I wish I could recommend to more people. I found a nugget of gold with this situation.

- Terrence, interview participant

How Can I Get Involved?

- Go to neuroinclusiveutah.org to learn more about neuro-inclusive housing options and the current research and strategy sessions that are underway.
- Subscribe to the Madison House Autism Foundation [newsletter](#) to stay updated on education and research opportunities in your community.
- Learn about your community’s existing general plan and local Public Housing Authority’s resources for autistic adults.



For more information, scan this code (point the phone camera at the code, then tap the link that pops up to load the website).