

FAQ Guide:

All you need to know about providing care to an adult in your own home.

plea
COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Are you looking for me?

We certainly are if you are:

- **over 21 years of age.**
- **eligible to work in Canada.**
- **financially stable.**
- **own or rent your home.**
- **able to provide each adult with his or her own bedroom.**
- **fluent in English.**
- **able to provide three references.**
- **able to provide a medical report from your doctor.**
- **free from having no more than five children/youth living in the home.**
- **free from having international students or clients from other agencies living in the home.**

We are seeking homes throughout the Lower Mainland and the Fraser Valley.

Placements are typically long-term but we also need homes for shorter-term placements.

About the Role

We are looking for individuals and families willing to share their own home with adults who, due to complex challenges and health conditions, cannot live on their own. You will work alongside us providing the care, support and supervision they need to live as independently and as comfortably as possible.



Work For The Entire Family:

Our homes work best when the entire family gets involved. Encourage your family members to apply to become respite workers so they can take on the role when you can't. See page 8 for more details.



Orientation Provided:

We will equip you with all the knowledge and skills you need to be successful in this role. You will have support available to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



Use Your Clinical Skills:

Often our caregivers are Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, Healthcare Workers or they have strong skills and experience in providing community, health and social services.



Work From Home:

Put your caring skills to good use without leaving the comfort of your home. If your home needs any improvements or adjustments, we offer $1000 to cover these costs.



Strong Team Culture:

Become an important part of a care team that works to support adults to live comfortably and independently.



Make A Difference:

Witness the positive impact you and your family have on the life of another, each and every day.



Competitive Pay:

Our usual rates are between $3,200 and $6,000 per bed, per month.

PLEA is an accredited, not-for-profit, charitable community services agency that has operated throughout BC for more than 40 years.

PLEA provides services to children, youth, adults and families facing significant challenges in their lives.We continually adapt our programs to suit each individual's diverse strengths, needs and circumstances. As a result, we have a strong reputation for helping those we serve overcome the challenges they face and lead fulfilling lives in their communities.

Our origins are in youth programming; however, the expertise we gained supporting youth translated into supporting these same young people on their journey into adulthood. We were then asked whether we could develop services for adults. This created the opportunity for us to develop services that meet the needs of adults with behavioural, physical, cognitive, medical and mental health challenges. It is these adults that you will be helping through this role.



"We believe, given the right support, every person can grow and thrive."

Through unique services tailored to individual strengths and needs, PLEA helps children, youth, adults and families who face significant challenges lead fulfilling lives within their communities.



Working alongside the client and their care team, you will help create a program of services for each client. These services may include:

- personal care such as help with bathing, grooming, dressing, cooking and/or getting to and from appointments;
- home care such as help with cleaning, grocery shopping, laundry and/or other housekeeping tasks;
- medical care such as help ordering, collecting and/or administering medications;
- support to pursue personal goals such as re-engaging in education, joining the workforce, learning a new life-skill, connecting to a community resource and/or engaging more in the community.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q **What will I be doing?**

A This role is about providing a safe, nurturing home to an adult in need, giving them a sense of belonging and assisting them to be more successful.

Q **What support will I get?**

A Every individual receiving services from us has a comprehensive service plan. This plan is developed by our staff team, of which you will be an equal part, and designed in consultation with the individual themselves. It is tailored to their personal circumstances and describes the services that they will receive from members of the team, from other professionals and the resources in the community available to them.

A member of our dedicated team will be available to you whenever you need them, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Q **Who are the individuals I will be expected to work with?**

A We provide services for adults who have not experienced success in other settings and who face significant challenges in their lives. These include behavioural, physical, cognitive, medical and mental health challenges. Just like our families, they come from a wide variety of backgrounds.

We have a successful track record of working with these individuals because of our experience in providing and coordinating services according to their individual strengths and needs, and doing so in strong collaboration with the families with whom they live. We value the significant time and energy our families devote to meeting the day-to-day needs of those living with them – and make sure that they have all the support they need to effectively manage difficulties when they arise.

Q **How long will an individual stay with us?**

A It depends. Sometimes individuals live with one of our families for less than one month, some for six months and some for many years.

Q **What information will I be given about them before they move into my home?**

A We will have extensive conversations with you about them, their circumstances and

the services our staff team will provide and coordinate before they move into your home.

Q **Can I provide care to more than one individual at a time?**

A Yes you can, up to a maximum of two clients at a time. However, you must be able to provide each individual with their own bedroom or suite. Your home must also be able to comfortably house two clients in addition to the persons already living there.

Q **What is the process I need to go through to provide a home to a person in-need?**

A Because you will be in a position of significant trust, there are several phases to our assessment process which collectively takes a few months to complete.

When you first contact us we will collect some basic information about you over the phone. You will then be asked to submit a short application form so we have a little more information about you, your family and your home. A member of our team will then contact you to review this form and to make arrangements for us to visit you in your home.

Because you and your family will play such an important part in the lives of those who live with them, we do want to know you very well before someone moves in with you. This means that there are a number of forms to complete and that we will visit your home more than once. We will also ask you some personal questions and will need to meet everyone who lives with you. These steps are all necessary to make sure the individuals we serve live with families who can meet their individual needs.

Q **What is the time commitment I need to make?**

A It depends. Some families open their home for 2-5 years; others are hooked and have been with us for 10 years and more.

Q **Can I work outside the home and also be a part of your team?**

A Yes. You can work outside the home as long as there is another adult in the home who is approved by PLEA to provide care to the individual living with you in your absence. Many people who join our team share their responsibilities with their partners, or other adult members of their families. You can find out more about what this means on page 8.

You can also work remotely from home. Your remote work must be flexible enough that you can meet the needs of your client(s) as they arise.

Most importantly, remember the needs of your client always come first.

Q **Can I do this role on an occasional or short-term basis?**

A Yes. We need people able to provide care in the homes of our full-time Family Caregivers when they can't be there. We call this type of support 'respite'. The selection criteria, requirements and access to training and support for those providing respite coverage are the same as those fulfilling this role on a full-time basis. You can read more about this role on page 8.

Q **What happens if I want to go on holiday?**

A Someone you know (i.e., an adult friend or family member) who has been approved by us to provide you with respite coverage would move into your home and care for the individual in your absence. You can read more about this role on page 8.

Q **Is there any other training or support provided?**

A Yes, extensive training and certification is provided to all caregivers. These include first aid, privacy training, naloxone and medication administration training, cultural training and more.

Q **What will I be paid?**

A Our rates are between $3,200 and $6,000 per bed, per month.

Q **Is there anything that could prevent me from doing this role?**

A There are several requirements that you do need to meet. In order to be approved, you must be over 21 years of age, be eligible to work in Canada, own or rent your own home, be fluent in English, be financially stable, have no more than five children/youth living in your home, and not have international students or clients from other agencies living in the home. You must also be able to provide each individual who lives with you with their own bedroom or suite that is safe, comfortable and suitably furnished. You will also be required to submit a medical report by your doctor and to provide three references.

Q **How is all my personal information protected?**

A All information gathered as part of this process, and any further information we collect while you are working with us, is treated in the strictest confidence and in compliance with privacy standards and legislation. Records are maintained in secure files.

Ready to apply?



We require someone to always be in the home when a client is there. Having a number of people who can provide respite coverage is therefore important as it means the primary caregiver can take a break when they want or need to.

Because these people work in the homes of our full-time caregivers, it is a good idea if they already know one another as trust and respect is already established. This is why we encourage you to ask other adult family members and friends to take on this role.

At a minimum the individuals who take on this role must be over 21 years of age, legally eligible to work in Canada, and able to provide three references. Once they apply, they follow a very similar process to our full-time family caregivers. However, because we do not need to visit their home or to interview the people that live with them, often the process takes only a few weeks to complete.

Once approved, they will work directly for you providing short-term and/or overnight coverage in your home when you can't be there. They will receive an orientation to ensure they are prepared and, when they are in your home, we are on-call if ever they need us. Individuals who choose to take on this role can also access additional training opportunities to further develop their skills in providing assistance to others in need.

Call us at: **(236) 333-2682**
or email: **careathome@plea.bc.ca**

Why choose PLEA?

In addition to the great support, good pay and training opportunities that have already been highlighted, other reasons why you should choose to work with PLEA include:

We have more than 40 years experience...



Collectively, we have more than 40 years' experience of working with individuals with cognitive challenges, physical disabilities, mental health concerns, behavioural challenges and medical needs. This experience has been collected through a variety of program models including acute care, family care homes, group home settings, long-term care settings, day programs and adult outreach. It has also been collected through a variety of fields including healthcare, social care, community living, assisted living, mental health and addictions.

"We feel valued and validated"

Family Caregiver

"It has been the best job I have ever had...I have never been treated so good as an employee".

Employee

Ready to apply?



We have multiple, stable funders...

We provide homes to adults who have been referred to us by the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, Fraser Health Authority, Interior Health Authority, Community Living BC, Department of Health & Social Services of the Government of the Northwest Territories, WorkSafe BC and Crime Victim Assistance Program.

We treat you well...

We want our caregivers to know how much we appreciate all that they do. We have many caregiver lunches so you can connect with others doing this role.

In the summer, we often arrange a team picnic which is attended by staff, caregivers, volunteers and clients. We also enjoy taking our caregivers out for dinner during the holiday season.

We're looking to grow...

This is why we need someone like you for this role.

"The support and help we receive through the program and staff is the best."

Family Caregiver

"PLEA has been supportive, and a vital part of rebuilding my life."

Program participant

Call us at: **(236) 333-2682**
email us: **careathome@plea.bc.ca**



COMMUNITY SERVICES

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