

Monthly tips and resources for young adults, their families, and supporters who are exploring options for life after high school in Indiana.

Finding the Perfect Fit: Accessible Housing (Part 2)

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Financial planning is an important skill! We all need to plan for expenses like furniture, dishes, moving costs, rent, food, utilities, internet, and entertainment like eating out, going to movies or concerts, or even vacations. In [November's issue](#) of What's Next?, you answered a list of questions designed to help determine your ideal housing situation. This month, you'll learn more about budgeting, saving money, and reaching your personal living goals.



Budgeting For Your Home

- Practice [budgeting](#) your current finances or work with your parents or trusted adults on a pretend budget to learn what you can afford.
- Share costs with a roommate. Many different services can help you to find someone to share a home with, like [supportive roommates](#).
- Talk to your Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) counselor about getting a [benefits review](#) to learn about the rules for [Social Security and Medicaid waiver](#) funding. A benefits review can help you understand your financial power!
- Learn how to save money with ABLE Accounts. The ABLE savings program is a way to save money for large purchases, like owning your own home. In Indiana, the program is called [INvestABLES](#).
- Talk to your parents or guardian about [trust options in Indiana](#). If you have or will get a large amount of money, your benefits could stop. A trust can protect your money and your benefits so that you keep getting the supports and services you need.

Affording Your Home and Basic Needs

If you need help with rent and utilities, government programs can help. [Indiana's Housing Authority](#) (IHCA) can connect you to [Section 8 and HUD](#). Most times, there is a long waiting list for Section 8. Talk to your parents or trusted adults about your budget and apply for these programs as soon as possible!

If you're in a jam, the Housing Authority can also help you get emergency funding. If you need help affording food, call or stop by your local [Family and Social Security Administration](#). They can help you apply for [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP).

Making these decisions takes planning, and it's never too early to get started. Good luck exploring where you want to live, practicing financial planning, and reaching your personal living goals!

Resources:

The resources listed below can help you evaluate additional housing options in Indiana.

- [ARC Housing Policy and Advocacy in Indiana](#)
- [Indiana Community Action Association](#)
- [Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority Programs](#)
- [Indiana Housing Now](#)

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