

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNITY SUPPORTED LIVING

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS *for Independent Living*



SimplyHome partners with providers nationwide to utilize residential assistive technology in community supported living environments. In 2010, Community Care of Central Wisconsin (CCCW) began partnering with SimplyHome's largest provider, My Innovative Services, Inc., to document the outcomes of community supported living with 54 individuals. By August 2012, CCCW was collecting data on 98 individuals with a variety of support needs. Their residences integrate enabling technologies to provide solutions for independence.

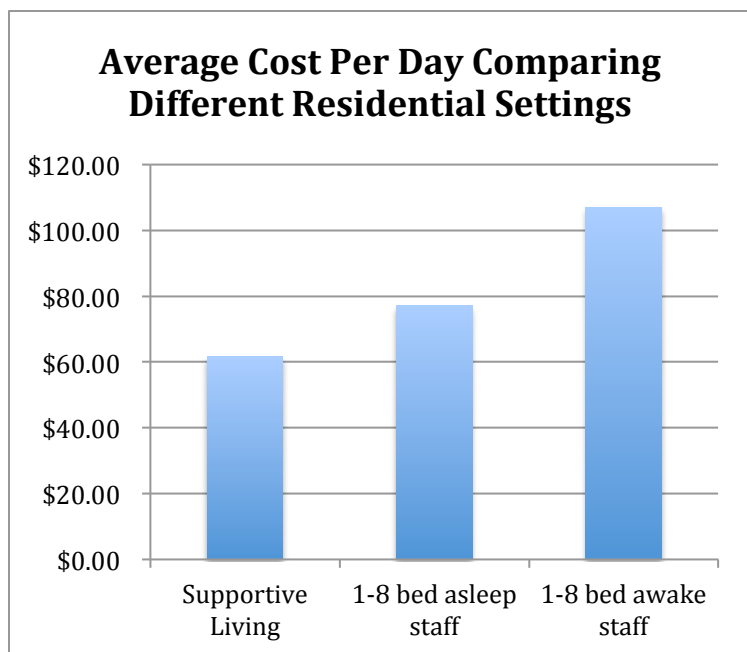
Purpose of the Study

To explore community supported living as a cost-competitive option for people who would otherwise reside in nursing homes, community-based residential facilities, or adult family homes.

Approach

The features of the person-center approach included:

- People would have their own place to live and choose with whom to live
- People would have varied support from an agency to select where to live, obtain as much or little support as needed, and work with the agency to solve problems and identify needs



Summary of Outcomes

- An increase in quality of life and wellbeing as reported by participants and people in their communities
- An overall reduction of costs compared with the living alternatives in which this cohort would have otherwise lived; by August 2012, the savings had increased to 20-42% (depending on residential comparison).
 - The overall physical proximity lends itself to the flexible manner in which staff can provide routine, spontaneous, and crisis-related support.
 - A daily rate provides the flexibility to increase and decrease needed support at any time the individual's outcomes and needs change.

(Strenn, J., Norby, K., and Harkins, D. *Community Supported Living Within Family Care: Community Care of Central Wisconsin's Experience*. May, 2012 Update.)