Life Sharing is a nurturing and supportive family-style living option for adults with disabilities who are 18 years or older. Individuals participating in Life Sharing services are carefully matched with an individual or family who will share their life and experiences and support them using person-centered practices. Life Sharing combines the benefits and enjoyment of living in a family home with the support to lead an independent life in community.

Background
Currently, Life Sharing is not a formal waiver service in Minnesota. While similar supports can be accessed using existing disability waiver services, the current framework and absence of a statewide service and reimbursement model for Life Sharing has created barriers to accessing this service for individuals and providers.

2022 Proposal
Direct Department of Human Services to work with stakeholders to increase access and remove barriers to Life Sharing. DHS and Stakeholders will:

• Research and discuss successful models used in other states.
• Discuss barriers and solutions to providing and accessing Life Sharing.
• Discuss how Life Sharing could be expanded to additional populations.
• Identify ways to expand awareness of Life Sharing.
• Develop a new covered waivered service known as Life Sharing.

Creating a formal statewide Life Sharing waiver service through meaningful stakeholder engagement will increase awareness, accessibility and viability of person-centered, community-based and culturally responsive supports for Minnesotans with disabilities. Life Sharing also increases access to housing options and addresses workforce shortages.