



**BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH AND LIFELONG HOMES  
WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES**

## **Home Life Leader Role Description**

### **Mission Statement**

To lead a group of household members in creating a loving, trusting home life that is at the heart of community life.

Guide every member in deepening their membership commitment, in doing so through prayer and trust in God.

### **Qualities and expectations of a Home Life Leader**

1. Rooted in prayer and trust in God.
2. Grounded and growing in a system of beliefs and values that are consistent with the beliefs and values of L'Arche as expressed in the [L'Arche Identity and Mission Statement](#) and Charter.
3. Living Daily Life Membership with integrity. Daily life membership is a choice to share our lives with our brothers and sisters in the community, actively participating in day-to-day life and building mutually transforming relationships in the community.
4. Leadership skills including; holding others accountable, delegation, mediation, and accompaniment. (Accompaniment is a way of walking alongside someone, offering a listening ear and advice.)
5. Leading the home and community in being a place of welcome.
6. Willing and able to lead with core people (adults with intellectual disabilities)
7. Willing and able to trust others and to entrust to others.
8. A desire and willingness to learn and grow.
9. Stable psychologically.
10. Organizes time well such that the priorities of the whole are valued.
11. Willingness to remain in the role for 2 years or more.

### **Role Accompaniment**

1. Accompanied by Executive Director | Community Leader.
2. Accompanies members of household and, as assigned, other members.

### **Role Objectives**

1. To lead a group of community members in creating a loving, trusting home life that is at the heart of L'Arche community life and that is congruent with the L'Arche Charter and with the L'Arche Identity and Mission Statement.
2. To foster unity among household and community members, based on a promise of love and on welcome and respect of differences.
3. To foster a loving atmosphere within the home where household members live, work, pray, and celebrate together, share their joys and their suffering, and forgive each other, as in a family.
4. To ensure to the extent practicable that household members are involved in decisions concerning them.

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5. To deepen his or her own spiritual life; to encourage each member of the household to discover and deepen her or his spiritual life and to live according to her or his particular faith or tradition; and to promote understanding within the community of the faith and values traditions of household members.
6. To accompany household members in seeking dignity, growth, and fulfillment.
7. To live, and to call other household and community members to live, a simple lifestyle that gives priority to home life and to relationships within the home.
8. To facilitate the integration of the household and community in the life of the neighborhood.
9. To ensure that the house and property are attractive and well maintained; and to organize household responsibilities and to coordinate members in fulfilling them.
10. To guide people in their growth as community members.
11. To nurture and sustain the common spiritual life of the home and the Community.
12. To support outreach efforts to announce the mission of L'Arche and to develop relationships with people who support L'Arche financially, spiritually, and socially.
13. To be a leader in promoting L'Arche Solidarity; in practicing hospitality, including hospitality to families and friends of community members, to neighbors, and to people who support L'Arche; in developing the household and community spiritual life; and in announcing L'Arche; and to consider formal leadership roles in those areas, if asked.
14. To consider other formally designated leadership and support roles within L'Arche Greater Washington, DC, and the L'Arche Federation, if asked.

### **Role Duties**

1. Calling and leading weekly meetings of people who live in the home for planning and sharing, usually called house meeting.
2. Ensuring daily common prayer in the home and calling members to participate.
3. Coordinating household activities and celebrations and household members' participation in activities and celebrations outside the home.
4. Participating with the Communications and Development team in welcoming of guests and in supporting donors and friends in developing meaningful and mutual relationships with L'Arche.
5. Meeting for membership accompaniment with household members and other assigned community members at least quarterly, and more frequently if helpful to a member's growth.
6. Coordinate and lead annual individual membership assessment.
7. Participating as requested in the recruitment, selection, welcoming, orientation, formation, and evaluation of daily life and other members.
8. Assigning and ensuring completion of house, property, and vehicle care responsibilities and acting as liaison with L'Arche Homes for Life.
9. Developing and ensuring the maintenance of a current home life calendar as well as other calendars needed for cooperative functioning within L'Arche.
10. Collaborate and meet regularly with the Service Team Leader (STL) and Program Coordinator
11. Creating and maintaining records of home and community life and history, including scrapbooks, photographs, and stories.
12. Lead in creating and maintaining the structures and traditions of home and community life and calling members to participation in them, including prayer, sharing of life and of sacred stories, celebration, the common meal, sacramental foot washing, and community and spiritual accompaniment.

13. Coordinating relationships of households within the Community.
14. Welcoming and coordinating the welcome of household, community guests, and new assistants and core people in conjunction with the hospitality committee.
15. Serving as a member of the community leadership team, and serving and leading as needed on the spiritual life committee, hospitality committee and solidarity committee, and on other community work groups and committees.
16. Attending the household service team meetings as an advocate for the integrity of home and Community life and for Community members served by the team.
17. Participate in creating the household budget and oversee household finances, and hold assistants accountable.
18. Function as an assistant, providing direct support to core people.
19. Collaborate with the STL to ensure monthly team accompaniment takes place.
20. Review this role description every 12 months to see if it is still valid. This review could happen at the same time as the member evaluation.

*L'Arche Greater Washington DC is an equal opportunity employer.*