

In Michigan, generally up to six  
unrelated persons can live  
together in a single-family home.

The City's Ordinances do not specify a number and are instead broader:

A collective number of individuals domiciled together **in one dwelling unit** whose relationship is of a continuing nontransient domestic character and **who are cooking and living** as a **single nonprofit housekeeping unit**. This definition does not include any society, club, fraternity, sorority, association, lodge, coterie, organization, or group of students or other individuals whose domestic relationship is of a transitory or seasonal nature or for an anticipated limited duration of a school term or other similar determinable period.

In Rochester Hills, if this type of home is located in a single-family zoning district, it is still considered a single-family home regardless of its unrelated occupants.

This type of home can be owned by one or more persons, related or not, in a variety of ownership structures.

Many of our I/DD homebuyers have chosen a form of ownership for this type of home that best suits their needs; they own their own bedroom and bathroom and have an undivided ownership interest in their shared kitchen, living room, dining room, laundry room, land, utilities, etc.

The form of ownership our I/DD homebuyers have chosen for their home cannot change the home's status as a single-family home. The homes will be used as single-family residences.

Michigan law (MCL 559.241) prohibits local ordinances, laws and regulations from treating this type of home as anything other than a single-family home, regardless of the form of ownership (including a legal condominium with common elements).

Our I/DD homebuyers have also chosen to permanently live together in this type of home and function as a family, sharing meals, activities, chores, friendship, etc.

Our I/DD homebuyers will have a continuing nontransient domestic relationship together.

These residences are intended to be their “forever homes.” They will cook and live together as a single nonprofit housekeeping unit. Our I/DD homebuyers will have several forms of support from the County, their family, friends and each other. There is no ability for an I/DD homebuyer to live completely independent from one another in these residences. They will live and operate the same as any other single-family.

Exercising their right to choose and control  
where and how they live is supported  
and encouraged by the State of  
Michigan's Self-Determination Initiative.

Any other considerations (licensed or unlicensed, live-in caregiving, etc.) that are related to our I/DD homebuyers' disabilities are irrelevant to this type of home's status as a single-family home for zoning purposes. This use is permitted regardless of whether the home is licensed or not.

In conclusion, our I/DD homebuyers' form of ownership and use of this type of home confirm the home's status as a single-family home, not a multi-family building.