

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

SESSION ONE

5 February 2025

Core members of the HI Network representing **8 different countries** came together on 5 February 2025 to launch HI's new online HI Community of Practice.

SUMMARY OF THE SESSION

The first session gave time for everyone to introduce themselves, their organisation and their experience as a homeshare provider.

Wendy Francis (HI Trustees) introduced the group to the **ideas behind a Community of Practice** and how it would operate. Everyone was then invited to share what they hoped to achieve from the community. The distinction was made between the CoP format which involves engagement and working together to develop practice and the HI in Conversation presentation format which involves telling and sharing knowledge.

There was discussion in **break-out rooms** (one held in French) about the 'homeshare pathway' - the steps to making a successful homeshare match - and which of these elements were common to all homeshare programmes, regardless of country and culture. Participants shared some of their concerns about finding common ground, bearing in mind the differences in structure and funding between programmes.

MOVING FORWARD

A community of practice relies on consensus from members about how to proceed. By the end of the meeting, members had agreed that the next session on **Wednesday 21 May** would focus on the broad topic of **Awareness and Promotion**. This will explore strategies around messaging, marketing and promotion of a homeshare programme, with the opportunity to ask questions in advance that can be shared with the group. The session will then be divided into three parts:

1. **What has worked well?** (Discussions in breakout rooms of no more than 5.)
2. **What has not worked so well?** (Discussions in breakout rooms of no more than 5.)
3. **Call to Action** What will members take away from the session and include in their practice moving forward?

The meeting will wrap-up with a discussion to agree topics for the next meeting

The HI Community of Practice is open to all Core Members of the HIN (Homeshare International Network). If you would like to take part in the CoP, but aren't yet a member, please join us!