Our Mission
To improve the quality of life by supporting independence.

Our Goals
To assist individuals in integrating into the community, thereby enhancing the diversity of our community and the quality of life for each consumer.

Who do we help?
We help people who have a diagnosis of Intellectual Disabilities or Autism.

Who is eligible?
Individuals receiving MaineCare Services who are age 18 and have a current diagnosis of Intellectual Disabilities or Autism.
For many individuals with intellectual disabilities or autism, traditional group home settings are not appropriate. This could be due to personal choice or a level of support issue. Independent living may also not be an option for similar reasons. To better serve consumers across the spectrum of need while maximizing the opportunity for personal choice and growth, GMS offers a shared living option (SLO), sometimes referred to as “adult foster care.” This option places the individual served into a home with a family or supportive roommate within the community of their choosing. SLO home providers are contracted through GMS to support the individual according to their service plan. As a member of a multi-disciplined team, home providers work with the individual served on all aspects of daily living, which may include administering medications, transportation, coordinating with other providers, support with medical appointments, improving safety skills, interpersonal skills development, nutritional support, behavioral interventions, and personal care. At GMS we believe in the concept of co-managing with the individual, which means support is viewed as not just assisting, but imparting skills needed for independence. Health and safety remains the primary focus; however this is balanced with the dignity of informed risk and individual choice. Home providers are tasked with understanding this balance while maintaining a healthy, positive relationship built on trust and respect.

As an administering agency for shared living homes, GMS provides the following:

- **Web-based electronic documentation**
- **24-hour on-call support**
- **Competitive daily rates**
- **Training as needed/required**
- **Home safety inspections**
- **Provider recruitment and background checks**
- **Monthly contacts**
- **Participation in all team meetings**
- **Coordination with other providers**
- **Consultation on matters of compliance**
- **Facilitation of short-term respite placements**

**WHO WE ARE**

GMS is a non-profit organization that serves adults with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism. GMS provides Shared Living, In-Home Supports, Case Management and Residential Services. The function of each Department is to provide and assist people with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism to accomplish and maintain their highest attainable living skills, and to improve the quality of life by supporting independence.

GMS was founded in 1981 by a group of concerned people who recognized the need for services for persons with Intellectual Disabilities and Autism. The Agency is governed by a Board of Directors. We support as many as 90+ consumers, in their homes and in the community.

**WHAT WE DO**

Throughout the years GMS has provided residential group homes tailored to meet individual needs. More recently, we have added a Community Services Department to educate, assist and empower people as to the variety of services and supports available to them. We work closely with consumers, Guardians, family members, agencies, caseworkers and other advocates. As a result, we can offer services to meet the specific needs of each individual.