

European examples

Purpose built intergenerational housing		
Country	Programme	Description
Germany	St Anna Foundation	25 developments across Germany ranging from 13 to 80 units, all handicapped accessible, where 2/3 of residents are aged 60 or over and 1/3 below. There are plenty of common spaces and a part time social worker to help residents organise common activities. Mix of owners and renters.
Spain	Municipal project for intergenerational housing and community services in Alicante	<p>Addresses the specific housing needs of low-income older persons and young people through the provision of 244 affordable, intergenerational housing units in central urban areas. The project not only provides decent, accessible housing but also works to create a supportive, family-like environment and sense of belonging among residents, enabling older residents to maintain their independence and stay in their own homes as they age.</p> <p>A range of services is provided to the wider community and the project has contributed towards the regeneration of the surrounding areas. Young people are involved on a voluntary basis in the communal organisation of everyday life in the buildings and neighbourhood, and in particular in cultural and recreational activities which take place in communal spaces. On the basis of a 'good neighbour agreement', each young person is in charge of taking care of four older people in the building, offering a few hours of their time each week to spend with the older residents.</p>
Austria	Generationen Wohnen am Mühlgrund	As part of a developer competition, architects and developers planned living arrangements that took into account the housing needs of older people and strengthened social cohesion between the generations. Altogether there are three residential house systems with 149 residential units, a community centre, space for gardening as well as a shared kitchen and community area. All of these units are barrier-free accessible and planned and build in order to enable easy adaptations if necessary. This innovative project represents an attempt to create a built and social environment offering people of various ages a co-living space as well as opportunities to jointly engage in urban life.

Intergenerational assisted apartments		
Country	Programme	Description
Spain	Intergenerational housing in Valladolid	<p>Since 1997, the University of Valladolid (UVa) has been developing a program of intergenerational cohousing in collaboration with the City Councils of Valladolid, Segovia, Soria and Palencia (Castilla y León Region, Spain).</p> <p>The aim of this project is to provide students with the opportunity of living rent-free with an older adult as an exchange of mutual help rooted on preventing social isolation. There are 14 apartments for older people and 3 apartments for college students.</p> <p>This can benefit both seniors and students: the elders because they can expand social relationships and can count on support, and the college students because they can obtain a cheaper accommodation in exchange for social support to their older neighbours. This support can take various forms, from leisure and cultural activities to simple domestic activities.</p> <p>The basis for determining the duties of the students and how to select them, is a task carried out by the University. The majority of students who have been selected to participate are very trained, almost all graduates, many of them carrying out a Phd, and they are all from different countries.</p>
Students living within nursing / senior homes		
Country	Programme	Description
Netherlands	Humanitas , Deventer	<p>Started in response to the growing cost of elderly care in the Netherlands and because the students would offer a social return on investment against loneliness for the elderly. In exchange for 30 hours of volunteer work per month, students can stay in vacant rooms free of charge with some of the 160 elderly who live there, doing things the professional staff can't always do, such as just hanging out. They may prepare meals for the elderly or offer them activities according to their interests such as watching sports or celebrating birthdays. There is no obligation for the elderly to take part in the activities. Students can have friends over for drinks and there is no curfew as long as the students are reasonable. Ratio of 6 students to 160 residents. Vibrant ground floor that is open to the public.</p>
Finland	The House that Fits scheme	<p>Pilot project run by the City of Helsinki. People under the age of 25 will be provided with cheap accommodation inside the city's Rudolf Seniors Home for one year. The young people are</p>

		expected to volunteer a minimum of between 3-5 hours per week to spend with elderly residents. The idea is to prevent homelessness and help young people find their feet with reasonably priced accommodation. It also aims to bring social benefits to the seniors in the home.
Homeshare schemes		
Country	Programme	Description
Spain	Viure i Conviure (Living and Living Together)	Helps college students in Catalonia find a room with an elderly person in return for some company during the evening and a reassuring presence at night. One of the distinctive aspects of this homeshare program is that social workers and counselors are integrally involved in all aspects of the program, from making the matches, to following up with all parties to make sure they are comfortable with their housing and living situations. Quantitative and qualitative evaluation has demonstrated the programme's capacity to foster the practice of associative (i.e., contact), affectual (i.e., sentiments), and functional (i.e., mutual support) solidarity.
France	Le PariSoldaire	Provides a personalised service to help connect young people looking for accommodation in Paris with senior citizens who want company or additional income.
France	ESDES inter-génération	Pairing system between international students and older people who want to offer accommodation in return for their presence in their home and help with everyday chores. The association selects students and arranges for them to meet the older people. Pairs are then decided. Both parties sign an agreement that sets out the details of the exchange as well as the conditions for leaving and a list of the reciprocal duties of each. The association monitors the pairs to ensure good relations and to prevent and manage any difficulties arising from living together.
France	At Home Crochus , Orleans	Pairing system between young people and older people who want to offer accommodation in return for their presence in their home and help with everyday chores.
Belgium, Netherlands and Scandinavia	e.g Molenbeek kangaroo houses	Matches seniors who have a home that is too big for them with young couples or families who are experiencing difficulties finding reasonably priced housing. The aim of these house-share schemes is to prevent the elderly from feeling isolated and to re-establish a sense of intergenerational solidarity for the young adults as well as the older adults.

Intergenerational neighbourhood centres with co-located services		
Country	Programme	Description
Germany	Mehrgenerationenhäuser	<p>Part of the German federal government's ageing population strategy. Around 450 community centres designed to be places where people of all ages and backgrounds can meet and mix. These houses are set up by local authorities, non-profit-organisations, social centres or churches, often in partnerships. The federal state provides financial support (employees, equipment, furniture, maintenance), handles communication and assesses the programme. There are a variety of services for both old and young, including day care services for older people, services for children and young people, advice centres, cafes and joint activities. The intention is to foster a sense of community and instil value of cooperation and mutuality in local residents.</p> <p>However, 'it is unclear as to whether or not the houses really strengthen intergenerational links. A visiting journalist from the Guardian described them as follows: "Pensioners volunteer to read books to the children and run a "rent-a-granny" service to relieve exhausted parents. In return, teenagers offer to show elderly people how to use computers and mobile phones". But according to some researchers, there is a lot of friction between children and seniors and not all elderly people want to be surrogate grandparents. An assessment of the first programme revealed that when they spoke of their desire to meet others in the house, they were mainly referring to those within their own age group'.¹</p>
Young mums and older people		
Country	Programme	Description
Netherlands	Beekmos, Houten	Houses 13 young mums and adolescent girls who need temporary support to find their housing independence alongside 4 elderly residents who act as coaches in an "assisted living environment". The role of the coaches is to live like 'good neighbours', being available to assist young people in their small daily needs (e.g. babysitting), also providing relational support and helping them to build social networks. The project foresees the sharing of certain activities, such as dining among neighbours on a weekly basis, or organising activities and excursions where youngsters and seniors become better acquainted and improve their social skills. The building

¹ Labit A & Dubost N, (2016) "[Housing and ageing in France and Germany: the intergenerational solution](#)", Housing, Care and Support, Vol. 19 Issue: 2, pp.45-5

		<p>is situated in an urban context, close to different services including schools, day-care centres, health services and social services. The building also includes large collective spaces, consulting rooms and a rooftop terrace.</p> <p>The basic concept is that young people and "neighbours" share one roof and help each other, with the difference in this case being that the coaches are specifically chosen among elderly people, for the first time. This choice serves a dual purpose. On the one hand, older people are considered suitable for this role because they have the time and necessary life experience to assist young women in a profitable way. On the other hand, this project is not only a way to solve a housing problem for the elderly, but also finding a home that suits their needs. Moreover, contact with young mothers and their children can add sense and meaning to their lives, countering the sense of emptiness that sometimes affects people in the later stages of life, especially after retirement.</p>
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USA examples

Grand-family schemes		
Where	Development	Description
Boston, Massachusetts	Grandfamilies House	Established by Boston Aging Concerns Young and Old United (BAC-You) in 1998 after four years of research, planning, and collaboration with other organizations. It was the USA's first housing service centre designed to meet the needs of elderly grandparents raising grandchildren. Drawing from the results of a study of 50 parenting grandparents, conducted by BAC-YOU, that showed significant health problems and concerns about the difficulty raising children in isolation, this facility was designed to be accessible for older adults (e.g. grab bars in the bathrooms), safe for children (e.g., protective covers over outlets and playgrounds viewable from apartment windows), and to provide space for intergenerational activities.
Phoenix, Arizona	Grandfamilies Place of Phoenix	Grandfamilies Place of Phoenix is a unique, affordable housing development tailored to the needs of seniors, specifically grandparents raising their grandchildren. A mixture of 56 two- and three-bedroom units provides safe, comfortable and affordable housing for multi-generational families.

		<p>Amenities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming pool & Sundeck • Barbecue and Picnic Area • Tot Lot / Playground • Basketball, Volleyball & Tennis Courts • Fitness centre • Computer centre • Club House • Covered Parking • In-House Social Services Coordinator <p>In addition, apartments include washer & dryer, private patios, storage space and fauxwood floors. Pets are allowed.</p>
Baton Rouge, Louisiana	Grandparent's House	Grandparent's House consists of three buildings — each two-story with 10 units – that are not part of a larger family or elderly complex. The units are two bedroom, one-bath. Grandparents of any age are allowed, and they are not required to have a legal relationship to the grandchildren. Other caregivers, such as aunts or uncles, may lease an apartment, but grandparents have first priority. There is 750 square feet of community space. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Information Centre is located onsite, and services are provided at the House. Although there is currently no outside space, the developers have acquired the neighbouring lot and will be building a playground and recreational area.
Hartford, Connecticut	CRT Generations	Multi-bedroom townhouses for grandparents with legal custody of their grandchildren. Children get services that help growth and learning. Educational activities are held after school and on weekends. Mentors, tutors and a full computer lab help children succeed in school. Caseworkers support grandparents as they handle daily parenting and meet family needs. Workshops and social activities help grandparents help their children. To apply, Grandparents must: be income qualified, be U.S. citizens, national or eligible non-citizen, have legal custody of their grandchildren and grandchildren must be under the age of 18
Kansas City, Missouri	Pemberton Park for Grandfamilies	Pemberton Park for Grandfamilies is the first development in Kansas City designed specifically to serve grandparents raising their grandchildren. It includes 36 spacious two, three and four-bedroom apartments, with units that are fully accessible or adaptable for those with disabilities. Apartments are

		fully equipped with all appliances, including a full-size washer and dryer. The site features a playground, large community room, grandparents lounge, computer learning centre, craft room, and social work office. Staff includes a Service Coordinator who organizes programs and activities for grandparents and grandchildren throughout the year.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Villard Square Grandfamily	Villard Square consists of one, two, and three bedroom apartments that feature air conditioning, in-unit laundry facilities, high ceilings and study spaces. Villard Square has a modern movie theatre, beauty salon, roof top play area, fitness room, community room and a business centre. There is an on-site supportive services liaison that links residents to local, state and federal benefits and services. Residents at Villard Square have easy access to a Milwaukee Public Library branch which is conveniently in the same building. Professional on-site staff and 24 hour emergency maintenance service create a peaceful and relaxing atmosphere. There are several apartment homes reserved at reduced rents.
Seniors living alongside at-risk families		
Where	Development	Description
Madison, Wisconsin	Hope and A Future	Under development: Currently houses four seniors plus a single mother and two children. Plans are underway to develop a total of 12 housing units - 8 for healthy seniors interested in an outwardly focused retirement and the security of a caring community along with 4 housing units for young, at-risk families. This phase of development includes community spaces that will include a large, multi-purpose room capable of seating 100 people at tables, a stage, kitchenette, two guest rooms, accessible bathrooms, a small library/reading space, a day-care room, a small private room for counselling and education, and office space. Community fundraising will take place to continue design work.
Seniors living alongside families fostering and adopting children		
Where	Development	Description
Portland, Oregon	Bridge Meadows	Inspired by Hope Meadows and by The Treehouse at Easthampton. On the two-acre (0.8 ha) site of the former John Ball Elementary School in the Portsmouth neighborhood of north Portland, Bridge Meadows has built a housing complex bearing its name that includes nine four-bedroom houses for families who adopt at least three foster children. The houses are integrated with 27 one- and two-bedroom apartment units for people age 55 or older who meet the income requirements for housing financed with low-income housing tax credits (LIHTCs). And, through a novel requirement, seniors at

		<p>Bridge Meadows act as surrogate grandparents and mentors to the children and families who live there.</p> <p>At Bridge Meadows, the four-bedroom houses are available only to those people who adopt at least three children from the foster care system within five years, a requirement intended to help keep siblings together. Bridge Meadows requires seniors living in the community to volunteer at least seven hours per week doing such things as teaching arts and crafts, giving music lessons, leading story hours, and taking the kids to the park. Both the three-children-in-five-years adoption requirement and the seven-hour-per-week volunteer time condition are written into lease addendums to the two classes of housing.</p> <p>Bridge Meadows has now expanded westwards to set up a new community which opened in August 2017 in nearby Beaverton.</p>
Purpose built intergenerational housing		
Pomona, California	Pomona intergenerational village	<p>Pomona Intergenerational Village is a 6.3 acre community made up of 63 senior apartments and 27 low to moderate income family townhomes. The project is a result of a partnership between Shield of Faith Economic Development (and Christian Center), the Related Companies and the city of Pomona's Redevelopment Agency. Building designs promote intergenerational living by meeting the distinct design requirements specific to townhomes and senior apartments. The senior apartment floor plans offer a universal approach to accessibility and adaptability to accommodate the health of residents as they age. Family townhomes offer space and privacy unavailable in similarly priced apartment communities. The recreation areas are central to the site to encourage nurturing relationships between generations.</p>
Regina, California	Orange Tree Village	<p>Located in Regina's Harbour Landing, Orange Tree Village blends families, children, seniors, students, travelling professionals, community members and staff, embracing intergenerational living into one village. It fosters a village-like environment, where generations aren't segmented from one another, but form an integrated community that learns, thrives, and finds purpose together. While intergenerational programming brings different age groups together through scheduled activities, intergenerational living increases opportunities to form deep and meaningful relationships amongst generations, as it seamlessly integrates people of all ages to share life under one roof. Programming, centred around the unique needs community members, residents, and learning centre children is</p>

		intentional in facilitating relationships across generations, enriching both the young and old through meaningful experiences and connections. A variety of living options are available including short term stay, affordable housing, specialised memory care, supportive living and a la carte homes aimed at all ages.
Palo Alto, California	Moldaw Residences at Taube Koret Campus for Jewish Life	Intergenerational community comprising a Jewish Community Centre, the Moldaw Residences (for retirees), a preschool and early education centre, and a few cafes and shops organised like a town square around green space.
Seniors living alongside students		
Where	Development	Description
Chicago, Illinois	The Laboure House / St Vincent de Paul Center	Congregate living residence for older adults and college students that is housed in a former convent. Sixteen rooms are available for seniors and seven rooms for college students. Each resident has a private bedroom, and the remainder of the space is designed for shared activities like daily meals, watching television and movies, playing board games and card games, and informal and planned intergenerational events and conversations.
Seattle, Washington	Merill Gardens and the Corydon	Couples senior housing and market rate housing adjacent to a university. Outdoor amenity space is shared by residents of both buildings and hosts events such as outdoor movie nights, bocce ball tournaments and University of Washington band performances.
New York, New York state	University of New York Homestay program	In response to soaring housing costs, NYU is rolling out a pilot program that will let students live in the spare bedrooms of local senior citizens. Students who opt in to the “home stay” program would slice their \$14,000-per-year housing bill in half. The initial program will consist of 10 mature juniors, seniors or grad students. NYU will partner with University Settlement, a Lower East Side nonprofit that provides social services to low-income seniors.