

## **Straight and Narrow**

### **House Rules and Living Agreement**

The purpose of our **transitional** homes is to provide an environment for spiritual, mental, emotional, physical and practical growth. We want to create a **family environment** that will enhance the possibility of residents establishing an intimate relationship with Christ so they may be integrated back into the community to become godly influences to others. We will accomplish this by developing an atmosphere of love and unity that will encourage and edify each resident as being valuable. Residents will NOT pursue relationships for the first year of the program.

Therefore, any us of **alcohol or drugs, profane language, any verbal or physical abuse to one another, stealing, lying and / or deliberate defiance of leadership will be grounds for immediate exit from the program. There will be no discussion! Gossip and rumors will not be tolerated based on the fruit of dissension and division they cause. These acts can be grounds for exit from the program.** The residents must leave the property immediately and will make arrangements to pick up their belongings the next day.

**The First 30 Days:** There will be a 30 day restriction when residents arrive. This is to help the resident adapt to a new way of thinking and living with out the hindrance of outside influence so they can maintain focus of why they are here. Residents will use this time to take care of personal matters such as getting ID, SS card, legal issues, health, GED, etc.

**Testing:** The resident agrees to submit to a Breathalyzer and/or Urinalysis upon request. Failure to submit to either will be considered a positive result and will be grounds for removal from premises.

**Housing and Living Responsibility:** Every resident will be required to pay housing and living responsibility fees. Resident fees will be \$50 per week or \$200 per month. Residents will be provided a receipt that is to be kept in their notebook. Resident will need to update the Housing and Living fees form in their notebook. Any refusal to pay without a reliable excuse will be cause for exit from the program. This will be at the discretion of the Executive Director.

**Employment:** Every resident will be required to seek employment after the 30 day restriction. When seeking a job the residents may go out during the day and turn in online applications during the evening. Residents may only work 1<sup>st</sup> shift based on the fact that our program is during the time of 2<sup>nd</sup> shifts and it is required that all residents submit to our structured program. Residents must remember why they are here and without

structure there is no accountability to change. If residents do not work, they will be expected to volunteer and serve at Bridge of Hope Community Church.

**Visitation:** At the house, based on liability issues, residents can only have professional personnel visiting who are verified by the house manager. Family members, friends and others (including sponsors) will need to visit only while the house manager is there. No visitors of the opposite sex are allowed at the houses unless you are married, a child, Case Manager or PO. House manager MUST be present when they visit.

**Vehicles:** If resident comes into the house with a car there is a 90 day restricted driving period. If a car is purchased during residency there will also be a 90 day restricted driving period after purchase. Restrictions will be determined by the house manager and Executive Director.

**Curfew:** House curfew is 6pm while you are on restriction and/or not working. If you are working **and** off your 30 day restriction, curfew is 9pm with approval from the house manager.

**Smoking:** There will be no smoking or vaping inside the homes. There will be no smoking between the hours of 10pm and 5am.

**Computer:** The house computer is only for residents to work on building a resume or applying for jobs online.

**Cell Phones:** After residents first 30 days, cell phones are not to be used during program activities within the house or at church. All house or cell phones will be shut off at 10pm. All phone calls will be made in common areas.

**\*\* Any profane language or arguments on the phone will be grounds for termination of the phone all together. House phones are to be used in the kitchen or living room.**

**House Keys:** New residents will receive a key after they have completed the first 30 days **AND** they are working.

**House Cleanliness:** Residents are required to clean up after themselves. No food is to be taken to the bedrooms except water. No personal items in common areas of the bathroom, living room and kitchen. No putting up pictures without house managers consent. **NO CANDLES OR INCENSE (any exposed fire).** Every room and bedroom will be clean and in order. The house manager will create a rotating weekly chore schedule.

**Meetings:** Worship, Bible Study, House Meetings and daily Devotions (in groups of 2-3 people) are **MANDATORY**. Failure to comply can be subject to exit from program based on the discretion of the Executive Director. There will also be some other activities that we will participate in.

**Sunday:** After worship, you will have a day of rest with no other responsibilities. Curfew still applies.

**Exiting:** Residents can not come back to get their belongings unless House Manager or Executive Director is there. Other residents do not have the authority to let someone in who has left. Residents have 7 days from the time they leave to get their belongings or they will be donated to an outside charitable ministry. House Manager and roommate will pack up the belongings if we have not heard from the missing resident within 24 hours.

**Returning:** If resident leaves on their own: You have given up your room. If there is a waiting list your name will be put on the list.

If resident was exited from the program: It will be determined by the Executive Director if you are eligible to return.

**Chain of Command:** Pastor Luther Eatman is the overseer that keeps the Executive Director accountable. Cartez Burkhalter is the Executive Director. Hurshel Lockett and Mona Bukhalter are the Directors. They oversee the operations of the houses and have final say on any decisions. They will make the House Managers accountable and will support the manager in their positions. If you have any problems within the house, the "Chain of Command" is as follows:

1. Take the issue to the House Manager.
2. If the House Manager is not able to resolve the issue the House Manager will contact the Director.

**\*\*By no means will the resident contact the Director or Pastor Luther directly without going through the proper protocols.\*\* The Pastor will not overturn the decision of the Directors unless there is some tangible reason to do so; otherwise the Directors make the final decision.**

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**Resident**

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**Date**

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**House Manager**

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**Date**