

HOSEA HOUSE RESIDENCY RULES & CONTRACT

Hosea House is not a lock-down facility. A woman may terminate her own residency at any time. Any violation of rules may result in loss of privileges, monetary fines or even termination from Hosea House. Disciplinary actions are individually assigned and may vary dependent upon the Director's discernment.

Hosea House is a Christian ministry to women in need, 18 years and older, and their dependent children, if any. It is not a maternity home. Residents are encouraged, but also educated, with Christian ethics and morals; and are invited to belief in God and to a deeper relationship with Him through Jesus Christ.

Hosea House is about RECOVERY: Recovery from self-destructive decisions, abusive and unsupportive relationships, addictions, substance abuse and sin. This ministry is not a licensed counseling service, but rather a source of help for the transformation of lives through the power of God.

Residency is expected to be for 1 year, but may be as long as 2 years. Each resident is evaluated individually by the Director for continuance in the home.

- 1 On-going rebellious or threatening behavior will not be tolerated. A resident may be asked to leave Hosea House based on disobedience to the rules, or other unacceptable behavior. The dismissed resident has 24 hours to vacate the property.
- 2 No resident is to be employed in the first six months, and then only after approval by the Director. Employment privileges are based on individual growth.
- 3 Jobs may not be scheduled on Sundays. Sundays are reserved for church, rest and visitors.
- 4 Food, toiletries, diapers, additional clothing and other necessities are provided by the ministry. When employed, residents' earnings are deposited into a bank account accessible only by the ministry. The purpose is to build-up funds for independent living following residency at Hosea House. Residents are encouraged to sacrifice 10% of their gross income in support of God's ministries.
- 5 No resident is to leave the house without permission from a staff person. No resident is to leave the property without being accompanied by a staff member or volunteer, unless approved by the Director – (usually only for employment).
- 6 Residents may not receive monetary or material gifts without approval from the Director.
- 7 Residents may not have cell phones or other electronic communication device. The house phone is available upon request and is to be used in the immediate presence of a staff member and on speaker mode. No personal phone calls during the first month –

with rare exception. The Director must approve all phone calls first. Any conversation may be terminated suddenly if the Director determines that the conversation is detrimental to the resident's growth. After the first month, residents may receive and send letters that are approved by the Director. All letters and greeting cards coming or going are read by the Director.

8 Visitors are allowed only by approval of the Director. Any potential visitor considered by the Director to be a possible hindrance to the resident's recovery will be refused. All visits must be in the presence of staff during the entire visit. No conversations with anyone outside of Hosea House without a staff person present or staff approval. A simple "hello"-type greeting is fine.

9 Any short-term leave from Hosea House must be approved by the Director. Family emergencies, personal medical need and special family events are some reasons for a possible leave without losing residency. Drug and alcohol testing will be administered upon return, as well as a search of all items and clothing.

10 Only staff are to answer the phone and the door. Entry doors are normally locked.

11 In case of fire, follow the emergency exit plan posted in each room. All occupants are to meet in the yard by the parking lot.

12 No I-Pods, lap tops, MP3 players or other electronic devices. No internet use without supervision. The house television is for approved DVD's. Only Director approved CD's may be played, including: Christian music, classical, soft jazz, other instrumental.

13 Evening meals are prepared by staff with assistance from residents. Residents prepare their own breakfast and lunch from food available. Mothers prepare their children's meals if the food is different than what the adults are eating. Meals are to be eaten in the kitchen/dining area. Snacks may be eaten in living room with staff approval. No food or drinks in bedrooms, except water and for the feeding of infants.

14 All residents must remain free of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and drug use. Doctor prescribed medications are kept locked-up and administered by certified staff to prevent unauthorized use. No prescription narcotics, pain pills, mood-altering medicines, anti-depressants or sleeping aids allowed. Urine tests may be administered by order of the Director at any time.

15 If any injury or illness appears serious, EMS will be called to transport the resident at the resident's expense. Staff will only transport to the doctor or clinic for minor situations and scheduled medical visits. Medical attention is never refused, but is the financial responsibility of the resident.

First aid and limited use of ibuprofen, Tylenol, Maalox, cough drops or other over-the-counter medicine WITHOUT alcohol or drowsiness as a side effect may be administered by certified staff.

Medications for children are given by the mother in the presence of trained staff.

16 All personal belongings are subject to inspection at any time by staff. No knives, pepper spray or potential weapons of any kind are permitted.

17 Physical confrontations, threats, abusive language and swearing are prohibited. Gambling, profanity, sexual humor, pornographic literature and images are forbidden.

18 Residents are not to enter any bedroom other than the one assigned without permission from the Director. The only times a resident is to be in her bedroom is for sleeping, changing clothes, illness, cleaning, putting items in the room or taking them out. If time in the bedroom is not self-limiting, a timer will be required during the daytime with a 15 minute limit. Studying, reading and writing is to be done in the common areas – (living room and dining area) – except after dismissal at the end of the day. Discussions with other residents are to be done in the common areas – not hallways, laundry or bedrooms.

19 Except for illness or emergency, staff are not to be disturbed from 10 pm to 7 am.

20 Residents will comply with celibacy. No dating. No riding in vehicles alone with men, other than staff. Sexual activity of any kind is forbidden. No grooming of another resident. No massages, back-rubs, foot-rubs, etc. No applying make-up to each other.

21 The expectation is that a mother desiring to have her child reside with her in Hosea House should make arrangements for her child to be at some other home for the first four months of residency – with a possible earlier exception made for Social Services requirements, if they are involved. Each mother in residence is responsible for the care of her own child in residence – NOT Hosea House staff, nor another resident. Arrangements will be made in the home during educational programs, if necessary.

22 Physical contact and play between children is normal and good for developing social skills. It is also good for spreading illnesses. Minimize this possibility by frequently disinfecting toys, play pens and high chairs. Isolate your child with a fever.

23 Residents are expected to be good stewards of the material things of Hosea House. Please conserve electricity and water. Do not waste food. Do not put tampons, applicators, wipes or paper towels in toilets.

24 Residents are expected to keep the home neat, orderly and clean. Make your bed neatly and straighten the room before coming to breakfast. General cleaning, laundry and groundskeeping are assigned by the Director and enforced by staff. Residents are to be showered, groomed, dressed and at the dining table by 8:00 AM.

25 Residents are expected to dress modestly and keep themselves clean. No exposing low neck lines, no bare midriffs, no skin-tight clothing, no mini-skirts, no thongs, no men's underwear, no spike heels, no seductive outer or underwear. Anything considered inappropriate by the Director must be stored or disposed of.

The only piercing item allowed is a pair of small earrings.

Minimal use of make-up and mildly scented perfume are allowed.

Footwear, (other than socks), is to be worn while walking in the house and grounds.

26 Residents will participate in Hosea House programs, in-house meetings, prayer times, Bible studies and recreational activities. All residents attend Sunday services as a group at a Bible-based church. Residents meet frequently with the Director for ministerial counseling.

Hosea House is NOT a licensed counseling service, nor a licensed drug/alcohol rehab program. The ministry receives no government funding. A resident does not have to be Christian, however, all direction is given based on Biblical principles. A resident may not "opt-out" of an activity because of a differing faith. This is a Christian ministry. The Director is an ordained minister.

27 Upon the third declaration of leaving Hosea House, whether in the heat of the moment or not, no reconsideration of staying will be offered – that resident is dismissed.

28 Copies of evaluations performed by other agencies in regards to a resident's medical or mental health will be given to the Director for the resident's file. Strict confidentiality will be observed.

Residents who stay with a recovery program one year or more will have far better success for continued sobriety and wise decision-making. Our primary goal is to make sure you have on-going opportunities to know Jesus Christ, to receive Him as your Savior, and to allow Him to be Lord over your life here and now.

Hosea House and staff are not financially responsible for illness or injury of residents or visitors on or off the property – with the exception of gross negligence on the ministry's part. Transportation of residents is by ministry-owned vehicle, staff vehicle or volunteer-owned vehicle. Drivers are not liable for injuries beyond insurance coverage. Hosea House does not have insurance on residents for medical, dental, life or personal property.

Additions, changes, clarifications may be made to these rules by the Director. Revised copies will be given to residents, reviewed with the Director and signed by both.

Together with the Director of Hosea House, I have read, (or been read to), these rules for residency. I have been given a copy of these rules for my own keeping. I also understand that by signing this form I agree to abide by these rules as a contract with Hosea House.

Signature of Resident Date_____

Printed Name of Resident

Signature of Director Date_____

Revised 08/22

