

Expectations of Interfaith Works Homeless Services Program

Welcome, we are glad you are here! In order to stay at our shelter, there are expectations that we have of everyone in and around any of our locations. If you have any questions about these expectations, ask to talk privately with a staff person--we are here for you. You are able to make your own decision about whether to stay here or not, and if you are unable to meet these expectations, we may ask you to leave.

Come As You Are, Accept Others As They Are

Treat yourself and everyone with respect and dignity.

Be Safe, Act Safe

No violence! Violence includes (but is not limited to) targeting someone because of their sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, gender/gender expression, age, ability, religious beliefs, etc. Violence can take the form of threats, hate speech, recognized symbols of oppression, unwanted physical contact, verbal and physical sexual harassment and assault and/or verbal and emotional abuse. Weapons of any kind are not allowed. You may check smaller weapons like knives, pocket knives, bats, hatchets, mace, etc. with staff and get them back. Guns are never allowed under any circumstances!

Respect People's Bodies/What They Do With Their Bodies

There are many different kinds of people here and all are welcome exactly as they are. We expect that you will not talk about, comment on, insult, use slurs, shame or otherwise remark about people's appearances or bodies to other guests or in common areas of the shelter. If you are annoyed with someone, don't make it about their race, ethnicity, gender/gender expression, sexual orientation, drug use, age, body size, or anything like that. If you are confused, have questions about another guest, staff person or volunteer, or feel like you are being targeted, please ask for support from a staff person in private—you are not alone.

Respect the Routine

We are open 24/7. We will check in at 11 am every day. We need to know that guests are using their bed every night. Guests must inform navigators if they are going to be late or miss a night. If you fail to check in or show up at the shelter every night you may lose your bed. If guests do not sleep in their bed for 1 night,

they are at risk of being exited from REST. REST shelter beds are short term and stays are limited to no longer than 30 days. Guests are evaluated regularly to see if they are receiving benefit from respite care and if not they are exited from the program.

Curfew is at 1 am. If you are out later than 1 am, you will be allowed back in the shelter after 9 AM the following morning.

The kitchen, laundry, and showers are limited to designated open times only.

No Sex In/Around The Shelter at Anytime/No Nudity in Common Areas

Common areas include all sleeping areas, common areas, the office, bathroom areas, the lobby, the laundry area, intake room, hallways, and the outdoor area. Shirts and shoes are required at all times. If you need socks, shoes, or clothing please ask us!

Respect and Protect the Space

Clean up after yourself, help out when you can, pick up trash outside and be good to our neighbors. No fighting or illegal or dangerous activities are allowed.

Sleep only in the bed that you are assigned. We have fire code regulations and need to be able to respond to emergencies adequately so we can't have people sleeping outside or in any common areas. We cannot permit use of extension cords or carts indoors, unless approved by management.

There is no camping in or around the building or the parking lot area and personal belongings need to be contained at all times. If you are having difficulty with your bed placement, you can discuss this with staff or a manager.

No Drug Use/Dealing

While we can't have drugs/drug use on the property, we always try to create an environment where people can talk openly about their use. If you have used and are at risk of overdose or worried about your safety, please tell us! We are here to help and want you to be as safe as possible. Being open and honest with us about your risk of overdose or concerns around your use will not jeopardize your ability to access the shelter. We have narcan and our staff are trained in overdose reversal.

Take Responsibility For Yourself and Your Belongings

This includes bikes, carts, and pets. If you have a pet you must follow the Pet Policy. All belongings must fit under your bed area and can't block any walkways or fire exits. Guests should expect personal belongings that exceed the bed area limit will be removed from the shelter. This will happen weekly via our [Pare Down Policy](#). You will be assigned a locker as a secure place to store items by your bed. You will be given 4 bins for personal belongings and two personal bedside lockers. Staff will only access the contents of your bed area in cases of emergency. Personal belongings may not be left on or around the shelter grounds. We encourage you to keep all valuables on your person or in your locker. The shelter is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. Items left after exiting REST will be thrown out

Bikes may not enter the shelter. You may lock one bike on the rack outside the shelter by the parking lot

Respect the Neighborhood

Treat the building, parking lot, grounds and all of the people that use the building with respect, dignity and compassion. Treat all neighboring businesses and residents with that same level of respect. Please do not post up around the property that isn't our designated space or in neighboring business or places of residence. Please don't leave personal belongings stashed around or block entryways in the neighborhood.

Fighting, yelling, or disturbing the neighborhood in any way puts the shelter at risk! In other words, don't blow up the spot! We will always aim to resolve a situation before asking someone to leave. However, if you are unable to meet these expectations, you may be asked to leave. We will make barring decisions with compassion and only to re-establish safety within our programs.

Signature _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Staff initials that guest received this information if signature is not given: _____