

ABBA'S HOUSE RESTORATION MINISTRY SAFE LIVING RULES OF AGREEMENT



You are hereby acknowledging you are in a transitional living environment and have no landlord/tenant rights. You are accepting the following rules and are agreeing to follow them during your stay at AHRM. Any violation of the following rules will result in immediate discharge from the house, and failure to leave immediately may result in both criminal and/or civil action being brought against you.

What Abba's House expects from their house guest:

- 1.** No foul language, inappropriate or crude joking, or cursing while at Abba's House. Remember, you are entering the program to learn how to follow Christ in a discipleship lifestyle. If Jesus would not say it or do it, then the same goes for you.
- 2.** We inform the probation and parole office if anyone is violated by our program. We respect our community and work to help people break free from the criminal mentality. That means 100% honesty with community agencies.
- 3.** Criminal mentality. We do not condone, promote, or encourage "the criminal code" at Abba's House. We'll help you break free from the lie that glamorizes being a criminal, and we desire for you to become productive citizens.
- 4.** You are expected to give back to the community and serve the community. We work hand in hand with the community agency. DFS, drug court, probation and parole, juvenile centers, jails, prisons, churches, and rehab centers.
- 5.** Strict curfew. 10:00 pm every night, and for the first 60 days, the only time one can leave is if you are accompanied by a brother who is off probation of Staff. Monday – Friday you must be back by 6pm for Dinner.

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6. 60-day probationary period. Remember, you are going to be watched for your behavior, and if you are negative, rebellious, and refuse to follow the structure of our housing, we will invite you to leave. We have beds for men who are 100% serious about changing who they are. We want to help people who are willing to do whatever it takes to become difference makers. If you are not willing to do whatever it takes, you need to bunk somewhere else.

7. Romantic relationships of any kind are prohibited. We accept someone who is married only if the relationship is long distance, and the couple is willing to go through counseling. We are a Christ-centered program, and we stand on the Biblical model of marriage! We also want to make sure our guests are qualified to be spouses, according to Ephesians 5. We expect you to give us 12 months of your life to help you learn how to have a healthy relationship with Jesus first and foremost.

8. Our guests leave and look for work daily until they have a job. They are to place job applications every day, Mon- Fri. We occasionally have job leads, but you are responsible for looking for work and turning in your applications. Everyone must have a job, and the job must be during the day Mon-Sat. No nights, no overnights. If you do not want to work and cannot work, this is not the program for you.

9. Accountability is a must, and we will be in your business. That is one of the main reasons everyone works the same hours. Those who want to live the lone-ranger life will not make it in our program. Accountability sheets are signed when leaving and coming home every day.

10. We drug test randomly. If you use drugs or alcohol, you must leave immediately. We never throw people away but give them a chance to prove they want in the house again. We will provide them with 30 days to

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show us, they want to come back. If they continue to show up, stay faithful, and participate in the program with the right attitude, then we will give them another shot.

11. There will be no locked doors, padlocks, to be kept by any guest, and the leadership can and will search your space at any-time.

12. Discipleship (Mentoring) is a must. We have one-on-one mentorship through discipleship that helps our people learn how to apply principles and disciplines that are found in God's Word to their life. This will be effective for a productive lifestyle and training that they can take with them. Our people receive mentoring, discipleship, and develop practical disciplines. They also become someone else's mentor and teach others in the program what they learned. **One of the biggest pitfalls in recovery is no purpose. We give our people a purpose and teach them ways to be effective for the rest of their lives.**

13. Wake-up is at 5:30am Monday- Friday, Devotions at 6am. It is your responsibility to wake-up and make your bed. There is no sleeping around the house and being unproductive. We teach men to develop a productive lifestyle. You are to be up and getting your day started every morning. Your chores are to be done before you leave the house. If you have a day off and you want to nap, then make sure it is in your bed after your morning commitments are made.

NO SLEEPING IN THE LIVING ROOM.

14. Hygiene and housekeeping: No one wants to be around a person who is filthy or doesn't take care of himself. You must take a shower daily and take care of your hygiene.

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15. You are required to attend Sunday Service and all other planned activities. You are in a Christian environment, and this house is a place for you to learn from God. Church services and meetings are **MANDATORY**. You should be excited to be a part of the church and should want to form relationships to get plugged-in at a local church.

16. There will be mandatory house meetings where issues will be discussed, disagreements will be settled, and new ideas will be considered. Those who desire to learn, and put hard work into the program will take away the most.

17. Personal items: We are not responsible for anything that you bring into the house. Abba's House is not responsible for lost or damaged personal items you bring, buy, or possess in the house at any time. **YOU BRING THESE ITEMS INTO THE HOUSE AT YOUR OWN RISK.** Nothing but clothing, hygiene, and learning material (Bible, books, notepads), and should be brought into the house.

18. Laundry facilities are a privilege, and they are to be taken care of. Bedding is to be washed weekly, and it is your responsibility to wash your clothes and bedding. Your laundry basket is to be kept up (you are not to have dirty clothes piled up any were), and once the basket is full, you must do your laundry. No one wants to smell your dirty clothing.

19. There will be chores assigned to each member of the house, and you are expected to do your chores daily (no exceptions). Chores will be given out by leadership and might change throughout your stay.

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20. All house guests are required to get “plugged-in.” This is one of the most (if not the most) important parts of your walk with the Lord. You are expected to find a place to get involved and meet people to share your struggles, make friends, and learn how to live a productive Christian life (the ministry has plenty of resources to help you get “plugged-in” and this will not be a problem for those who are serious).

21. (Phase 2 Only) Parking is available to those who have vehicles. You cannot bring several cars or create a junkyard. The vehicle must run, be legal, and you must have a valid driver’s license. No one will drive without a license period. If you want to break the law, then Abba’s House is not for you.

22. House phone is not to be tied up by one person all the time. The house phone, which may, at the sole, absolute, and unreviewable discretion of the ministry employees or volunteers, be used by house guests. This is a privilege, and the house will not allow overuse or abuse of this privilege. The house will have this available for you on weekends, so your family can call. Be respectful and know that the phone is for the whole house, NOT just one person. The time limit on the phone is 20 minutes at a time, and no phone calls should come in after 9:00 pm or before 8:00 am (with limited exceptions).

23. All house guests are responsible for providing their food for lunch, snacks, and weekends. (Breakfast and Dinner will be prepared Monday through Friday on a rotating Schedule prepared by residents.) **No food will be allowed in the bedrooms**, only in the Dining and/or Kitchen area. You can place your food in assigned places in the Kitchen, with plastic (approved) containers, clearly marked with your name. Under no circumstance is

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anyone allowed to take someone else's food without permission, and doing so can result in being terminated from the house.

24. No weapons, pornography, or any Rated 'R' films with sexual content, inappropriate magazines, music, or anything that could cause your brother in Christ to stumble. Such determinations of what is inappropriate shall be determined by the volunteers/employees of the house.

***Freedom City Ministries does not allow the culture to deem what is acceptable or unacceptable regarding medication, possessions, or behavior. Such determinations of what is acceptable or unacceptable shall be determined by the authorized structure of the house. Any variation from the structure of these rules or any display of what is deemed unacceptable by Abba's House Staff or volunteers is grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.

25. Each house guest is required to pay Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350) a month for service fees. The ministry is not into making money from you, but we must charge service fees in order to maintain the premises and operate the house. Service fees help pay for things like your room being furnished, the house having things you need to live, the criteria that you learn from, maintenance, and repair of the house. In the real world you will have to pay your way, and our structure is no different. Remember, you are accepted because of your request to learn how to be a disciple of Christ.

26. Freedom City Ministries, Inc. (Abba's House) shall not be liable to you for any items, either lost or stolen, which you bring into the house. Freedom City Ministries, Inc. shall not be liable for any accidents, incidents, or other causes of actions that may arise from living with other

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house guests. You acknowledge and assume the risk associated with other house guests who may be convicted criminals, suffer from addictions, and/or have mental health issues. You acknowledge the risk associated with living with these individuals and agree to hold Freedom City Ministries, Inc. harmless from any cause of action or liability which may arise from living in this environment.

Should any part of this agreement be rendered or declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidation of such part or portion of this agreement should not invalidate the remaining portions thereof, and they shall remain in full force and effect. This agreement shall be governed, construed, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri.

- ARE YOU WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET YOUR LIFE, RIGHT?
- ARE YOU WILLING TO GIVE UP YOUR CRIMINAL MENTALITY?
- ARE YOU WILLING TO COMMIT ONE YEAR TO GOD ALONG SIDE OF FREEDOM CITY MINISTRIES?
- WILL YOU PUT OFF ANY ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP TO WORK ON YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST, SO THAT YOU CAN HAVE A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS?

IF THE ANSWER IS YES TO THOSE QUESTIONS, YOU READY!

Please sign your name in the space provided below as an indication that you have received a copy of the aforementioned agreement, and that you understand and agree to the terms of this agreement.

Signature _____ Date _____