

HOUSE RULES OF MERICA HOUSE

Merica House is intended to be a cooperative, family-like housing environment for physically disabled adults. In a congregate living arrangement, it is necessary for the resident to know what the house rules are and their responsibility in making Merica House a safe, peaceful place to live.

1. Request for Privacy

Each resident is to be considerate of the other residents. This includes but is not limited to:

- No loud music or televisions.
- Knock before entering any room when the door is closed.
- Respect a resident's privacy while on the telephone or when they have a guest visiting them.

2. Respect of Property

- Residents are encouraged to have their own lock box for their valuables or alternatively, allow the Coordinator to lock up their values in an office filing cabinet;
- If any resident is observed or caught stealing another's possession, he/she is subject to:
 - a) Having their leasing status changed to a probationary status.
 - b) Having their lease terminated; and/or
 - c) Being reported to the appropriate authorities.
- Each resident is financially responsible for reimbursing Merica House/APD for any willful damage to common property and/or for replacing or repairing such items immediately.
- Each resident is responsible for the neatness of his/her room and the common areas. If needed, seek assistance.
- Each resident is responsible for disposing of their own property or equipment, including any expense incurred.
- A resident's property cannot be stored on the patio or storage rea. This includes, but is not limited to beds, furniture, personal lift, wheelchair, equipment, and appliances.

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3. Food Service

See Food Fund document

- Each participating resident is responsible for paying \$150 towards the monthly food fund at the beginning of each month.
- Groceries will be selected by the residents.
- If the resident opts out of the Food Fund program, he/she is responsible for purchasing all foods and staples, i.e., salt, ketchup, etc. which he/she consumes.

4. Telephone Use

- Each resident is responsible for arranging for and paying for their own phone.
- Merica House phones may be used for local use only.

5. Behavioral Issues

- Merica House is a smoke-free home. No smoking in or out on the MH premises is allowed (see lease).
- Merica House is a drug-free home. Possession or use of an illegal drug and/or taking an authorized drug in a manner not prescribed by a physician could be cause for:
 - a) Having their leasing status changed to a probationary status.
 - b) Having their lease terminated; and/or
 - c) Being reported to appropriate authorities.
- Moderate use of alcohol is permitted by the resident or visitor. Intoxication with resultant disruptive behavior will be cause for probation or lease termination.
- Any disruptive behavior i.e., repeated occasions of loss of temper, abusive language or aggressive action toward another resident or staff will be cause for probation or lease termination.

6. Overnight Guest Policy

- A resident may have one overnight guest at a time. If a guest will be staying longer than one night, arrangements must be made in advance.
- Guests are asked to follow the same house rules as the tenant in regard to conduct, privacy and respect for property.
- Introduce guest to Resident Service Coordinator.

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7. Probationary Policy

- If a tenant willfully or repeatedly violates any of the above house rules, it will be the prerogative of the APD Board of Directors to allow another probationary period or to terminate the lease.

Resident Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Approved: 7/24/17