

The Affinity House Rules

Mission Statement: To provide a safe, ethical and nurturing recovery environment for women to heal and attain a lifetime of empowerment and self-worth.

Life at the Affinity House will be encouraging and harmonious. To maintain harmony between residents, encourage appropriate behavior, and give all a chance to be helped by sober living, we have established specific rules that all residents must abide by. Before admission to The Affinity House, please carefully read these rules to understand what will be expected of you here.

1. The Affinity House (AH) is a clean and sober environment – **drug and alcohol use are strictly prohibited.** Any violation of this rule is cause for termination of residency. All potential residents are required to submit to random drug and alcohol screening upon admission and at any time upon demand. Refusal to provide screening will be considered a positive test and result in termination of residency. If drug or alcohol use is suspected, staff will investigate suspected use. Any disorderly response will lead to the police being called. If a resident submits a positive drug or alcohol test the following will occur:
 - a. Resident will have one hour to leave the house and 72 hours to coordinate gathering their belongings with a staff member if you cannot take your belongings right away. If resident agrees to treatment, they can be considered to return on a case-by-case basis.
 - b. Resident also has the option of contesting the positive drug screen by going to the hospital **same day** and providing medical labs directly from the hospital.
2. Prescribed medications that are considered controlled substances will be held by the House Manager in a locked safe located in the office. You must provide a signed doctor's note for all controlled substances detailing the purpose of the medication and prescriber's acknowledgement that you are in recovery. Prescriptions must be handed to the house manager in the pharmacy bag, unopened. No exceptions. You will need to obtain your medications during the set med collection times and take your medications as prescribed. We do not dispense medications, but we do monitor your dosage and how much you are taking. If you abuse your medications, the House Manager will write you up and at their discretion, your residency may be terminated from The Affinity House.
3. The Affinity House reserves the right to conduct random, unannounced room inspections. Discovery of illicit substances or contraband may result in immediate termination of residency and the filing of police reports. Contraband items include, but are not limited to drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, and weapons of any kind.
4. Disruptive behavior is not tolerated. These acts include but are not limited to verbal threats/abuse, bullying, sexual harassment, physical violence, destruction of property and/or intimidation of any manner. Any such acts are grounds for termination of residency.
5. The Affinity House is not responsible for lost or stolen property. If you have anything of significant value, we suggest you do not bring it. If you must, discuss having it locked up with the House Manager. Theft is not tolerated. This offense will result in immediate termination of residency and filing of a police report. If you bring any furniture to The Affinity House it is assumed that it will remain in the house even after you leave.

6. Any household items that are broken or damaged by a resident must be replaced/repaired at the resident's expense. Damage to building structures, equipment or appliances must be done by a professional that has been authorized by AH staff and paid for by the resident.
7. All residents are required to participate in either employment or volunteering at least 20 hours per week, school/education or an addiction outpatient program, such as PHP/IOP/SOAP. All residents are required to leave the house for a minimum of 4 hours per day except for inclement weather days (i.e. rain, sleet, or snow). You must request an exception from the House Manager if you are unable to leave the house for personal reasons.
8. All residents must attend a minimum of 4 recovery meetings per week, two of which must be in person meetings. Meeting logs must be filled out daily, once a week or all at once is not acceptable. Zoom meetings/online meetings/groups must include name, time, meeting ID or phone number to be counted. Failure to attend required meetings may result in warnings and eventually termination of residency after three warnings.
9. Attendance at the weekly house meeting is mandatory and counts towards your 4 weekly meetings. Only exception is if you choose to work instead of attending the house meeting. If you choose to miss house meeting you forfeit any say in house issues being discussed and decisions made in your absence. If you have any issues or concerns in the house, or with another resident, that you are not comfortable bringing up at house meeting, please bring it to Christine or Pam as soon as possible so we can handle it appropriately.
10. All residents must have a sponsor, recovery coach or mentor within 30 days of move-in. If you are having trouble finding one, discuss with Christine or Pam.
11. Overnight Pass privileges are contingent upon approval, are not guaranteed and are not permitted within the first 30 days of your residency. All requests must be submitted at least 48 hours in advance. If you are requesting multiple consecutive overnights, you must submit request at least 72 hours in advance. Approval of a request is contingent upon completing all house obligations. Curfew is 10:00pm (unless you have been given a different time by Pam or Christine), an extension can only be approved by an AH staff member.
12. No stopping, idling or parking is allowed in the driveway between the two houses as this is a shared driveway. Absolutely no one is to park behind the neighbor's house on the right or in front of the garage door all the way to the right. We strongly recommend obtaining a permit from the town. This can be obtained at the Hull Police Department.
13. All visitors (female only except for male family members) must follow the house rules. Visitors are allowed during visiting hours only and must be announced to all residents beforehand. Visiting hours are from 10:00am to 8:00pm. You must always stay with your guest. Male guests are not permitted in bedrooms.
14. Residents are responsible for the purchase and preparation of their own snacks and meals. Label your food and drink. If it is not yours, do not eat/drink it. As fridge and cabinet space is shared and limited, please shop only for what will fit in your designated area.

15. Do not leave cigarettes/e-cigarettes unattended. Dispose of your ash and butts in the disposal cans/ashtrays provided. All smoking must be in the designated area. No smoking is allowed in front of the house or on the back porch.
16. Cleanliness starts with self; keep personal room area clean and orderly. Be considerate of roommates and others. No alterations are to be made to any of the rooms without consent from the staff, including but not limited to nailing anything to the walls or hanging pictures/things.
17. All residents must complete assigned chores daily/weekly. If you are on an overnight or will not be at home, you are responsible for finding someone to cover your chore. Failure to complete chores will result in a warning. Three warnings of any nature will result in termination of residency.
18. Reasonable noise levels are always to be maintained. No yelling, screaming or excessively loud music/TV. TV use should be at minimal sound levels. When playing music in common areas, the type of music should be generally acceptable by others and not excessively loud. When playing music on the floor, the music must be acceptable by everyone on the floor and played at a minimal sound level. Headphones are mandatory if you have a roommate.
19. Do not leave laundry unattended and be prompt in removing your clothes from the washer as soon as it is finished. When hanging clothes, be sure to remove once they are dried to make room for others. A laundry schedule sign-up sheet will be used if necessary.
20. Personal items left due to termination of residency will be held for maximum of 72 hours. After the 72 hours, the items are considered property of The Affinity House. Residents are responsible for planning with staff in advance for the pick-up of their personal belongings.
21. Please become familiar with emergency plans posted throughout the house. No fire lit products are to be used in the house. Smoke only in designated areas. Narcan kits are available in the kitchen and are clearly visible.
22. Do not for any reason change the house thermostat or temperature of the refrigerators. If you have a concern, speak with an AH staff member. No extension cord or power strip use without AH staff member's approval to ensure safety.
23. All exterior doors are always to be closed and locked. No exceptions.
24. If an issue arises that is not addressed here, or in emergency posts, do not assume you know the answer. Ask staff first before acting.
- 25. Residents in violation of any House Rule may be subject to termination of residency. Three warnings/probations will result in termination of residency.**
26. All Affinity House rules are subject to review and update/change without advance notice. All residents will be provided with any updated/changed rules. Complaints should be brought to the House Manager as soon as possible.

I, _____, have read and voluntarily agree to abide by all the rules of The Affinity House. I do hereby agree to comply with all the rules listed above and understand all that is expected of me during my residency in The Affinity House.

Resident Signature

Date

Staff Signature

Date