

Odyssey House Residential Services operates drug free therapeutic communities at Lower Plenty and the Circuit Breaker Program in North Eastern Victoria (both referred to below as the House). The communities are made up of people joined together for a single purpose – to improve the well-being of its residents.

Residents decide on their own accord to enter the House and may leave at any time by their own free will. The House has Rules which all members are required to observe.

### **The Rules of the House**

- NO drugs
- NO violence
- NO stealing
- NO sex
- NO knowledge of any of the above

Each resident is responsible for ensuring that these Rules are both abided by and protected. Failure to do so threatens the integrity of the Community.

### **The Executive Manager**

The Executive Manager, Residential Services is the head of the House and, in conjunction with the other staff, will interpret and administer the Rules. The Executive Manager reserves the right to add to the Rules as circumstances require.

### **Breaking the Rules**

If staff learn of any Rule that has been broken, they may require the person who has broken the Rule, or anyone who knew that the Rule was being broken but did not disclose it, to leave the House.

### **Examples of matters NOT consistent with conduct of the House**

- Possession of drugs, alcohol, cash or other items not considered acceptable by staff
- Possession of property which has been taken from another person without their permission
- If any person initiates, participates in, or threatens violent conduct

### **Leaving the House**

Any resident who leaves the House must make suitable arrangements with staff regarding return to their usual place of residence.

The staff reserve the right to ask a resident to leave the House if they believe that the Program is no longer helping that person. They will make every effort to refer the resident to an agency which is more appropriate to the resident's particular needs.

### **Social Service, Welfare and other Government Benefits & Fees**

Residents of the House, unless they are clearly ineligible, must apply for the appropriate Government benefits. All residents are required to contribute to assist in meeting costs. All necessary documentation is required to be completed prior to entry.

### **Financial Assistance for Rehabilitation & Commitments**

From time to time financial assistance may be given to residents to assist in their rehabilitation and reintegration back into the community. Applications will be considered on a case by case basis.

### **Contact**

For the Residential Program in Melbourne call 03 9420 7610 or fax on 03 9425 9537.

For the Residential Program in North Eastern Victoria, call 03 5766 6399 or fax 03 5766 6115.



**On admission day all clients must be at 660 Bridge Rd, Richmond by 10am**

**Your admission will not proceed if:**

- You are late
- You are not completely detoxed
- We suspect that you are under the influence of any substance

**You may not be admitted to Odyssey if:**

- You have been discharged early from residential detox; or
- You left detox against advice

**On admission day, you must present with the following:**

- Driver's Licence
- ATM Card
- Methadone/Suboxone script and certified photo (if required)
- Health Care/Pension card
- Medicare card
- Legal paperwork
- At least 2 days medication in its box or webster pack and current medication scripts
- If you need to apply for Centrelink payments, you will need the appropriate identification to "confirm your identity". Refer Centrelink website for requirements

**Do not bring**

- More than \$30 cash
- Loose medication – as these will be destroyed (including Methadone and Suboxone)

**Admission day process**

- Your property will be searched by senior residents and/or staff. You are free to observe this process.
- You will complete admission paperwork with staff including signing Treatment Agreements and handing over ID, scripts and medication. Money cannot be held by residents at the TC. Up to \$30 may be securely stored by staff and is returned upon exit.
- Two senior residents and/or staff of your gender will search the clothing you are wearing. You are given a robe to wear during this process. This search is conducted in a sensitive and respectful manner. Upon arriving at the TC you will be asked to shower whilst your clothing is searched a second time.

**Important things to know for Admission Day**

- Admission can take several hours – make sure that you have had breakfast.
- If you choose to smoke, Odyssey House provides you with the opportunity to purchase pouches of tobacco, papers, lighters and filters.
- Upon completion of the property and clothing search, you are not permitted to leave Admissions premises and must remain in the company of a senior resident or staff.
- Once administrative processes are complete, senior residents will drive you to the TC to begin your residential program.
- *Remember, you must be completely detoxed. Any drug or alcohol use on admission day will result in no admission. If staff suspect drug/alcohol use, your admission may be postponed until you can provide evidence of no use (urine drug screens etc)*

## What to bring

One large suitcase.

- Include clothes for working outside, swimming, and for playing sport
- Inappropriate clothing (revealing clothes, drug/alcohol or offensive slogans or images) will be stored safely and returned upon exit
- You will be able to wash your clothing up to twice a week
- If possible, get a haircut before admission as there may be a wait before you are able to attend a barber/hairdresser

### *Optional*

- Watch (excluding Smart watches)
- Brush, comb, hair accessories, make-up, inexpensive jewellery (a minimal amount, sealed or able to be searched)
- Hat and sunglasses for working outside
- Beard trimmers/clippers
- Books
- CDs (There is a communal CD player, no burnt/inappropriate CDs permitted)
- Art and craft materials
- Photographs (inappropriate photos containing alcohol, drugs or sexual content will not be permitted)
- MP3 player (no camera/photo storage)
- If you smoke tobacco, one pack of cigarettes or pouch of tobacco

## What not to bring

- Soap, toothpaste, mouthwash, shampoo or conditioner. Odyssey House provides basic toiletries
- Hair dryer/straightener- these are also provided
- Valuables such as jewellery, laptops, etc. These **will not** be stored by Odyssey House
- Excess property: these cannot be stored by at the TC and will be held at Richmond until someone can pick them up. If these are not collected within a reasonable timeframe they may be disposed of

### *Please note:*

- Electrical items may be safely stored until you are further into the program. Any electrical items will need to be tagged (tested as safe) by an electrician before they can be used
- Personal business must be resolved prior to admission – such outstanding bills, loans, payments, storage, lease termination, care of animals, direct debits, etc.

***If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call (03) 9420 7610.***