



Emergency Shelter Volunteer Agreement 2016-2017

1. Each volunteer must maintain a firm commitment to professional conduct.

As a volunteer of Mercy House volunteers are expected to maintain the highest level of moral, ethical and professional conduct while at the agency site. Volunteers will not engage in verbal abuse of sexual nature, jokes and stories of a sexual nature, and or any type of sexual interaction, with a Mercy House client or staff.

2. Relationships with Clients.

Volunteers are prohibited from developing dual relationships with any client they meet through their volunteer involvement at Mercy House. Examples of dual relationships include (but are not limited to) a volunteer entering into a business, romantic, or sexual relationship with a client. Soliciting clients for your business is strictly prohibited. Mercy House volunteers are not allowed to be named as having authority to make decisions for a client under any type of power of attorney or other legal procedure. This includes, but is not limited to, powers of attorney for medical care or finances. Volunteers matched with Mercy House clients through Mercy House are not allowed to assume responsibility for custodianship or guardianship issues for any client or for a member of the client's family.

3. Food & Other Substances.

Volunteers will not consume any food items or drinks supplied by Mercy House while volunteering. Food and drinks are purchased solely for the consumption by our homeless clients. Volunteers must also commit to not consuming any type of illicit drugs on Mercy House premises while volunteering on behalf of this agency.

4. Discrimination.

Volunteers will not judge any individual's race, disability, religious preference, sexual orientation, color, age, veteran status, citizenship, ancestry, national origin or gender.

5. Religious Conviction.

Mercy House does not condone the recruitment of its clients for religious intent.

6. Volunteer Boundaries.

Volunteers are not permitted to loan or give money to clients, should not meet with clients outside of the Mercy House Shelters without permission from program staff, and are not allowed to drive clients in their vehicles.

7. Commitment

Mercy House relies heavily on our volunteers, therefore, we take your commitment very seriously. If you sign-up for a shift and miss your shift without removing yourself from the calendar or do not give at least 2 days notice you will be removed from any future shifts after the second offense.

8. Age Restrictions

The Armory Emergency Shelter can be a volatile environment and we permit anyone who is homeless including men and women with criminal offenses, therefore, we can only permit children ages 10 years and older with parent or guardian supervision to volunteer. If under 18, you must be accompanied by an adult.

I hereby agree to the following terms and conditions of being a Mercy House volunteer. I understand that failure to adhere to these conditions may result in my being dismissed from the Mercy House Volunteer Program.

(Please print legibly)

Volunteer Print Name: _____

Volunteer Signature: _____

Date: _____