

Ph: (360)709-9725 ~ Fax: (360)570-8848 www.ougm.org "Restoring Hope, Transforming Lives" Since 1995

## CAMP MERCY GOALS, RESIDENT EXPECTATIONS AND RULES

"Camp Mercy" is intended to provide Program Members with an opportunity to find respite, safety and security in a "Clean and Sober Tiny House" on Olympia Union Gospel Mission property to escape the stresses and temptations common to living the homeless lifestyle. It is our hope that Program Members will use this opportunity to reevaluate their lives and seriously consider these questions: 1. Why am I living on the street? 2. Am I really content with my life the way it has been? 3. Who controls my life, drugs and unhealthy habits or God? 4. What obstacles are preventing me from changing?

The Mission is ready to help those who choose to make positive changes in their lives. Camp Mercy is not a place to serve long-term homelessness; rather it is a safe environment in which individuals may constructively work toward self-sufficiency. (The Mission cannot provide shelter to level 2 and 3 sex offenders.) For the safety of all, applicants for Camp Mercy will be subject to a background check. Individuals with active or unresolved criminal matters may be considered candidates to join Camp Mercy on a case by case decision.

The Olympia Union Gospel Mission is a Christian organization. We strongly believe that it is our relationship with God that has changed our lives. The Mission does not require a profession of faith to be admitted to Camp Mercy. We would strongly suggest that you take this opportunity to explore the Christian faith while in the camp during your meetings with the counselors and by attending church services. We do have an established church service here at the Mission. You are welcome to attend here or you can attend another of your choice. Residents who are not yet working full time will be asked to set up the dayroom to prepare for the church service as part of the volunteer work program. This is part of your program participation and may be discussed in your One on Ones with your case manager.

**PROGRAM FEE**: Program Members are to allocate 10% of any earned income up to \$200.00 per month to help off- set the cost of operating Camp Mercy. This program fee is not to be considered as rent paid for any dwelling at the Olympia Union Gospel Mission. There will be no refunds of paid amount if the resident is asked to vacate due to a compliance or rule violation. **The PROGRAM FEE IS TO BE PAID BY THE FIRST OF THE MONTH**.

Payment made to the Olympia Union Gospel Mission/Camp Mercy 309 Washington NE Olympia WA. Payment Office Hours are 8:00am-4:00pm Monday- Friday

Over the phone payments should be paid by calling 360 709-9725. When calling it is imperative that you mention that you are a resident at Camp Mercy and are paying your program fee so the funds are allocated correctly.

Method of payment can be cash, check, money order, debit card or you can set up direct withdraw through your employer and the Mission.

Please list your account number if possible as your personal Tiny House I.D. given to you by your case manager when you entered the program. And always retain your receipts. A resident can be asked to pay a prorated Program Fee when entering the program during a portion of the month.

Help figuring out your payment is available from your case manager. You will need your pay stub.

FINANCIAL / BUDGETING HELP: While a resident at Camp Mercy your case manager will assist you to become proficient in financial management. You will be learning ways to manage your income and expenses. We will be setting future financial goals to attempt to clear up any outstanding debt you may have. The Camp Coordinator will oversee this process to maintain the integrity of the residents budgeting and saving for your future secure living situation. You will identify any items in collections that need to be taken care.

Those who are financially capable of handling their finances will just be on a weekly audit and less instruction will be needed.

## Because of the precious time allowed for mastering your finances, any unauthorized spending will be in violation and can result in dismissal from the program.

Residents are required to submit a weekly bank statement showing their spending compliance.

Because the nature of our sobriety program, any cash withdrawals will need to be explained in detail with receipts. It is more efficient for you and the case manager if you don't withdraw money but use your debt card.

Learning to manage income and expenses as well as save for the future is an invaluable life skill.

Residents are **allowed "entertainment spending" of 10% of their income.** This includes but not limited to: fast food or restaurants, movies, coffee shops, cigarettes, shopping, gifts to others, online spending, museums, books, etc.

No new debt is to be added while a resident at Camp Mercy.

INTAKE / PROGRAM DURATION: Subject to successfully completing the application process (see attached) and background check, Program Members will be admitted to Camp Mercy for an initial period of up to 30 days. At the end of the first week, Program Members will meet with Camp Staff to determine short term goals to address immediate needs like medical, food stamps, dental and future housing. Thereafter, Program Members will meet with Camp Staff each week to discuss progress towards established goals and to set new goals. Goals will include becoming proficient in financial management, including budgeting. Camp Mercy is intended to help Program Members determine what specific changes need to be made in their lives, including financial management, to become self-sufficient. At the end of each 30 - day cycle, Program Members will be evaluated to determine if the agreed upon goals are being met, and if not why. Extension to the expiring 30 days stay as a Program Member will be determined at that time based on adherence to Camp rules and progress towards agreed goals. The Mission will renew the 30 day cycle up to six (6) times for Program Members who are making a good faith effort to become employed and self-sufficient members of society. The Mission's intent is to come beside Program Members and give them a hand up not just a handout.

If at any time the Executive Director or Camp Mercy Staff determines that a Program Member is not serious about life change in a clean and sober environment the Program Member may be discharged from the Camp. All Program Members must abide by the rules below. Violations of these rules will result in disciplinary action and may be grounds for immediate discharge from the Program and being asked to immediately leave Mission property. It is the Program Member's responsibility to remain familiar with all program rules.

EXPECTATIONS AND RULES FOR CAMP MERCY

- 1. Prospective Program Members of Camp Mercy must have a picture ID (The Mission will help individuals obtain an ID) and pass a background check.
- 2. If you are on medications, you must take them as prescribed by your healthcare provider. Compliance in these matters is mandatory. Camp staff reserves the right to audit prescription medication use versus prescribed dosage to check for compliance. If you participate in programs such as mental health, chemical dependency treatment, and/or homeless housing assistance, you must abide by their conditions, and must actively remain aware of the payment arrangements.
- 3. There must be respect for Camp Staff, other Program Members, and residents / business owners in downtown Olympia. Respect the private property rights of others. Trespassing or loitering on property off site to the Mission is grounds for dismissal from the Program.

- 4. Any ongoing disputes between Program Members that cannot be resolved should be brought to the attention of Management. Fighting, threatening, or intimidation of others will not be tolerated. Committing any illegal acts or other criminal activity on, or off, the premises will not be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to: theft or destruction of another's money, personal property or business property of the Mission or neighbors; domestic violence; physical or verbal abuse towards Program Members, Camp Staff, visitors and neighbors; or trafficking drugs or stolen items. Borrowing, selling, or sharing of prescription medications will not be tolerated. If a resident has a car, before it is driven it must be legally registered and minimum insurance required by law must be active, along with of course a valid driver's license. This is to avoid further legal violations and fines in the future. Violation of any of the aforementioned may result in immediate eviction. Program Members are encouraged to contact Camp Staff and / or emergency personnel if they feel like they or someone else is in danger. Mission Staff are to be notified immediately if this type of situation occurs.
- 5. The Tiny Houses and surrounding areas must be kept organized, neat and clean at all times. Camp Staff will be the ultimate decision makers about what constitutes "neat and clean. A weekly chore list is given in the welcome packet. There will be house checks to insure your tiny house is taken care of in the area of cleanliness. We want to ensure that the tiny house you are in is in good condition for the next resident and that they will last as long as possible. Please treat your tiny house and surrounding area with respect. Because the shared living space is limited, you must keep your belongings to a minimum that can be stored in the Tiny House. Program Members are encouraged to store bicycles in their Tiny House. However, outside storage is acceptable for one and only one bicycle. Camp Staff has the right to ask you to remove any unauthorized items and/or limit the number of personal items you can have. Laundry may not be hung to dry outside the Tiny Houses. Program Members may not store personal belongings outside the Tiny Houses, except for one bicycle, or in the common use area. Program Members agree to participate in maintaining the common use areas of Camp Mercy.
- 6. The Tiny Houses are the Property of the Mission. No modifications may be made without the permission of Mission Staff. Program Members will be responsible for any new damage not noted on the initial inspection form.
- 7. The Olympia Union Gospel Mission is not responsible for Resident's personal property in cases of theft or damage.
- 8. There shall be no "Campfires" in Camp Mercy, or any other open flame. At its option, the Mission may provide Program Members access to a barbecue approved for residential or commercial use.
- 9. Program Members are discouraged from bringing food into the Tiny Houses unless it will be consumed within an hour. Any food not being eaten within an hour must be stored in a container with a tight lid. (The Mission reserves the right to ban consumption or storage of all food in the Tiny Houses if rodents are attracted to the area.) If food that is not stored in a

container when a house check is done the results will marked down on the house check report.

- Attire and Dress. Dress appropriately for casual public places. Please wear at least a blouse /shirt, dress / pants and shoes. Clothing with violent, sexual, or drug themes is not permitted. Program Members are expected to remain neat, clean and wear clean cloths.
- 11. Program Members must observe confidentiality of names or stories related to other Program Members.
- 12. Feelings should be expressed appropriately; throwing objects, yelling, profanity, etc., will not be tolerated. Be respectful of all Mission Staff, neighbors and their property.
- 13. The volume of music and other noise producing activities must consider the right of other Program Members and Mission neighbors to the peaceful enjoyment of their surroundings. Be respectful of others. Mission Staff reserve the right to request that the volume of music or other noise producing activities be reduced. Volume levels shall not exceed limits set forth in OMC 18.40.080.
- 14. Curfew and Quiet Times Unless permission is previously granted by Camp Staff, all Program Members will be in their respective Tiny House by 9:00 PM. Quiet times are observed from 10 PM to 7 AM. Without prior permission, residents will not be allowed to stay somewhere else over night while being in the Camp Mercy program and having a house assigned to them. If there is an emergency situation, this will be looked at on a case by case. There will be no traffic in and out of the Camp during scheduled curfew times. Except for use of the portable toilets, all Program Members are required to be in their Tiny House by curfew and remain on the property until 7:00 AM unless leaving is directly related to a work schedule, then it can be pre-approved by Camp Staff on a case by case basis. If you leave after curfew, you will be subject to disciplinary action which may result in no longer being allowed to reside in Camp Mercy.
- 15. Restricted Personal Items Weapons of any kind are prohibited. If the client declares possession of a weapon up front, the Mission will make a good faith effort to securely store the weapon when the safety of Mission staff will not be compromised. Possession of any items of this sort may result in immediate eviction. No pornography of any kind will be allowed on the property.
- 16. Security of Keys No Program Member will allow their keys to Camp Mercy / Mission Property to leave their personal possession. This includes giving your keys to another to perform a task, such retrieving a personal item from your Tiny House or loaning a key to the portable bathroom, or security gate.
- 17. General Safety and Security Inform management if there are any suspicious persons or activities on or near Mission property. The Mission reserves the right to have Camp Staff search personal belongings of any Program Member if there is reason to believe that the Program Member is transporting items prohibited by this agreement. Any Program Member sneaking persons into their Tiny House may be evicted. Only electric heat

provided by the Mission may be used in the Tiny House. Keep all items away from the heaters. Do not disable smoke alarms. The burning of candles is strictly prohibited; the fire danger is too great. Improper use or negligence that causes damage to any Mission property may result in eviction and/or the Program Member having to pay for repairs.

- 18. Physical Boundaries No Program Member is allowed into another Program Member's Tiny House without permission of Camp Staff. Camp Staff reserve the right to enter a Tiny House at any time to inspect the unit, make repairs, or conduct random house and curfew checks. Program Members are not permitted to change Tiny Houses unless directed by Camp Staff.
- Overnight Absences from the Property Except for emergent situations, Program Members will not be absent from the Property. The Camp Mercy Coordinator may approve exceptions on a case by case basis for valid reasons.
- 20. Abandonment If a Program Member is absent without approval from Camp Mercy overnight or for more than one day they will be considered to have resigned from the Program and any personal property along with the Tiny House will be surrendered to the Camp Coordinator.
- 21. Relationships and Visitors Program members are part of Camp Mercy to address life issues and move on to independent living. Relationships are a distraction from the overall goals of Camp Mercy and are not permitted. Intimate, physical, and/or sexual behavior is not permitted on the premises; this applies to both Program Members and their visitors. Romantic or sexual involvement with other Program Members is not permitted. No visitors shall enter the: Enclosed Area, Tiny Houses at any time without permission of Camp Staff. Visiting hours are 9AM to 5 PM and should occur on Mission property outside the Camp area. No minors are allowed on the property at any time. Prior Program Members are not permitted to return to visit without prior approval of the Camp Staff. Hosting Program Members must stay with their visitor and are responsible for their behavior. The Olympia Union Gospel Mission is private property; Camp Staff reserve the right to ask any visitor to leave, as well as prohibit visitors from returning. All Program Members are required to notify Camp Staff each time before a guest arrives at the property to visit, pick them up, or drop them off.
- 22. No pets are allowed. Service animals require Camp Staff explicit approval.
- 23. Smoking inside a Tiny House is grounds for immediate eviction. Do not smoke within 25 feet of doorways. Ensure all cigarettes are extinguished carefully for safety, make sure all butts are disposed of properly and not on the ground. Failure to meet any of these requirements may result in your privilege to smoke on the property being revoked. Smoking policy may change without notice at any time.
- 24. Drug Testing and Drug/Alcohol Use Camp Mercy is a drug and alcohol-Free Camp Drug or Alcohol possession or usage, including marijuana, is strictly forbidden. Camp Program Members are required to submit to urine or saliva drug testing as a condition for being a Program Member. Any violation of this rule can result in being discharged

from the Program and eviction. Additionally, no drug paraphernalia of any kind is allowed on the property. No Program Member shall be intoxicated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol on the property at any time. The Olympia Union Gospel Mission reserves the right to request that a Program Members submit to a drug or alcohol screen at any time, with or without cause. Failure to comply with the request will be considered as if the screen had been positive and the Program Member will be discharged from the Program and evicted. If a Program Member believes another Program Member is in possession of banned drugs or alcohol, or is under the influence of any substance at any time, Camp Staff must be contacted immediately. It is everyone's responsibility to keep Camp Mercy safe. Failure to notify Staff of another Program Member's use of substances can result in immediate discharge.

By signing below, you are acknowledging that you have received a copy of the contract, read, understood and are willing to abide by the rules described above. You understand that failure to abide by these rules may result in being discharged from the Program eviction and as appropriate will be reported to your DOC officer or case manager. You also acknowledge that the expectations of this contract may be changed at any time by Olympia Union Gospel Mission.

Print full Name:	
Signature:	Date:
Camp Mercy Staff:	

Approved: L Steffen, 4-25-20, Rev 5-30-20, Rev 8-5-20, Rev 9-18-20, Rev 10-26-21, Rev 11-13-21