



## **Program Information and Expectations**

The purpose of this document is for familiarizing you with His Mansion's program. We try as best we can to help you understand what you are committing to for your healing and change. This is not exhaustive of the *Resident Guidelines* that a person lives under while in the program. You will be given the *Resident Guidelines* and other documents upon your acceptance and entering of the program.

### **Introduction:**

His Mansion Ministries is a Christ-centered residential healing community helping men and women between 18 and 35 years of age who struggle with addiction, trauma, and other life-controlling issues. This twelve month program consists of a rigorous work schedule, class work, and group and individual counseling, all of which are intended to guide residents in the process of spiritual formation. All staff and residents live on campus which is located on our 316 acre working farm in SW New Hampshire.

The His Mansion community works actively and intentionally to provide an environment that fosters spiritual formation in the lives of all its participants, both staff and residents. We take a holistic approach that incorporates mind, body, spirit, and community. Daily spiritual formation is the core of our healing process focusing on the growth and development of disciples of Jesus Christ. We have seen the Spirit of God work in amazing and effective ways through this process in the lives of residents and staff. Our hope is for you to experience the same.

### **The Program:**

His Mansion's program is a strict, no-nonsense community where your healing must be more important to you than it is to us. Residents are expected to work the program and exhibit a desire to change. Candidates who are not at a point where they are ready to surrender to the process need not apply. The staff will genuinely care about you and will not tolerate anyone sabotaging your healing – even you.

His Mansion is a tobacco-free, alcohol-free, and drug-free environment. Appropriate medical prescriptions are allowed provided the resident follows the His Mansion medication policy. Applicants may not be wards of the state or mandated by the courts. His Mansion reserves the right to accept or deny acceptance to any applicant.

A week at His Mansion consists of a balance between individual and group counseling, small group class time, worship, and physical labor. We are a working farm and grow our own crops and raise our own animals to help support the ministry's needs. Being a working farm where both animals and people need to eat, designated class days as well as weekends require some work and responsibility. (More information is available online at [www.hismansion.com](http://www.hismansion.com).)

### **Cost:**

His Mansion Ministries is a faith-based program; we do not charge for our services with the exception of a \$100 administration fee. Your ongoing stay at His Mansion will have a cost. Your sponsor will be responsible for the burden of this cost. It is expected that applicants accepted at His Mansion will have a sponsor who will be the contact person throughout the resident's stay. (See the "Sponsor Commitment Form" attached to the "Resident Application" for more information.) That being said, no one is turned away for lack of funds. If finding a sponsor is a problem, let us know and we will explore the possible options with you.

## **Admission:**

You must complete the “Resident Application” and mail it to His Mansion. After 7-10 days, applicants should call us inquiring about the status of the application. Based on your application, we will determine if it is appropriate to move forward to an interview. If that is the case, an interview date will be scheduled. In-person interviews are preferred; however, if distance is a problem, we will interview you over the phone.

Once interviewed, we will determine whether an applicant is appropriate for our program. If accepted and at the applicant's request, she or he will be notified of an intake date, placed on a waiting list, and asked to call in once a week to check in.

## **Expectations:**

The following information and expectations are intended to help you understand the commitment residents make upon entrance into our program. More detailed *Resident Guidelines* will be provided upon arrival.

### What you can expect:

- An environment which allows you to focus on healing in a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
- To be treated with dignity as a person created in the image of God. Sincere, honest questions will receive a like response.
- Genuine love and care. God has given us a love for those who are struggling with issues and problems such as yours.
- Discipline and guidance.

### What is expected of you:

- Sincerity: You must have a sincere desire to change in character and conduct.
- Honesty: Mutual trust is important. Complete honesty and openness is the goal as you begin to trust the Lord and the people at His Mansion He has placed in your life to help you.
- Humility: The proud person will struggle with the authority and structure of His Mansion – ultimately you will not finish the program if humility is not learned. A lack of humility prevents teachability.
- Obedience: We do not ask for mindless obedience; however, compliance to the guidelines and the authority structure is essential for us to help you.
- Commitment: You must arrive with the goal of completing the program. Remaining in the program requires continued commitment to personal change in character and conduct as well as a willingness to continue on the path of healing identified by the staff.
- Diligence: You must demonstrate a willingness and growing ability to follow the rules and satisfactorily complete homework, journaling, and work duties with a positive and teachable attitude.

### For Your Consideration:

Some people find that this is a difficult program – and it is. This is intended. Understand that you will:

- Be supervised and accountable to the staff.
- Living arrangements are in a dormitory setting – privacy and personal space is limited.
- The schedule is structured and free time is limited.
- This is a work program. You will be required to work to provide for yourself and others.
- This is a Christ-centered program (see our “Statement of Faith”). Expect your thoughts and beliefs to be challenged. Expect that you *will* be changed in the process.
  - Your words and behavior will be scrutinized and challenged if they do not exhibit the character and conduct of a follower of Christ.

## Boundaries and Discipline

- *Behavior not tolerated:*
  - Smoking/smokeless tobacco, abuse of substances or drugs
  - Talking boastfully of your past sin, sexually explicit or suggestive talk, vulgar language, complaining or unconstructive criticism, sarcasm, taunting, ridicule and joking at the expense of others, gossip, abusive language
  - Stealing from the ministry or any other person.
  - Destroying of ministry or another's property
  - Violent or hateful talk/behavior (fighting, intimidation or threats)
  - An argumentative attitude or behavior, willful or defiant behavior
  - Antagonistic behavior towards others
- *Music:* Only certain types of approved music are allowed to be played in our dormitories. Generally, music that is understandable, positive, and uplifting in nature is considered. All music must be approved by the Program Department. Residents may not bring music with them.
- *Reading material:* All reading material must be approved by the Program Department. Generally, material that does not affirm or glorify sinful behavior, negative thoughts and attitudes, the occult, other religions or new age thinking is allowed.
- *Religious:* Promoting other religions by any means is not allowed
- *Personal contact:* Inappropriate physical contact between people of the same or opposite sex is not allowed.
- *Relationships:* Developing romantic relationships with any other resident or staff person is not allowed. Friendships with the same gender are encouraged. Limited casual relating with the opposite sex is monitored.
- *Dress code and appearance* (more detailed information will be given in the *Resident Guidelines*):
  - Clothing or jewelry that identifies with your unhealthy past or sinful lifestyle is restricted. You will be asked to wear clothes to properly and modestly cover your body.
  - Obtaining piercings or body art is prohibited while in the program. Women can only have ear piercings exposed. Men can not have any exposed piercings.
  - Personal hygiene: cleanliness and neatness is required.
- It is expected that you will be diligent and responsible in fulfilling the program requirements as to class assignments, journaling, reading, Bible study, church services, etc.
- It is required that you be on time to all activities that make up the daily schedule.

## Consequences and correction:

His Mansion is a consequential environment. Consequences to improper attitudes or behavior will be given as a result of violating the guidelines and may be given in the form of additional work, homework, or revoking of privileges as determined by the Program Department.

## Circumstances that could lead to a resident's dismissal from the program:

- Medical issues arise and prevent ongoing participation in the program
- Your emotional, psychological, or spiritual needs are beyond the ability or existing expertise of the program or staff
- There are significant omissions or falsifications of information on your application or in the interview process
- Attempting to smuggle in or use tobacco, drugs, pornography, weapons, or anything else deemed to be a threat to yourself or others into the community
- Violence or threats of violence, taunting to provoke violence, or creation of an atmosphere of intimidation
- A pattern of inappropriate relating with members of the same or opposite sex or pursuing a romantic relationship with another resident or staff person
- A pattern of lying and deception

- A pattern of abusive language
- An influence on others that is destructive, demoralizing, or divisive
- Being outside of the resident dormitories after lights out or before wake up in the morning without a staff member present
- Walking off the property without permission

Outside Contact:

Contact with the outside world is very limited while you are in the program. Any off-campus activity is “covered” by a staff person.

- *Phone calls* are limited to safe people and for a certain amount of time based on the phase of the program you are in. The Program Department will work with your sponsor to determine who is considered safe. Calls will be monitored by staff.
- *Mail* is limited to safe and supportive people.
- *Engaging in romantic relationships*, outside of marriage, is prohibited while you are in the program; **any** contact or communication of a romantic nature is not permitted.

Miscellaneous:

- All belongings and the attire you arrive in will be searched upon arrival. We reserve the right to search you, your belongings, and your personal space at any time during your stay in the program.
- You may not have a personal car or any other mode of transportation on the property.
- Personal electronic devices of any kind are not allowed. (Special needs or circumstances must be approved prior to your arrival)