

## **THE REFERRAL CRITERIA FOR SUBSTANCE-FREE COMMUNITY**

Substance free community provides a safe and secure community for all residents who are ready to be abstinent from substances or alcohol. The ethos of the house is around peer-support, regular testing and engagement in the community.

### **ELIGABILITY CRITERIA**

- Must be over 18 years of old.
- Male.
- Are able to claim Housing Benefit or has the means to pay for the service.
- Must be self-medicating.

### **DISCRETIONARY CRITERIA**

- The following criteria normally preclude service acceptance but acceptance may be possible after a more detailed risk assessment. Details of the offenses must be disclosed;
  - Conviction for arson, sexual offences and serious assault (section 18 and section 20)

### **REFERRAL PROCEDURE**

- The organisation referring the person must be working with the client prior to and referral at least until acceptance in the service.
- Drug screening alcohol testing for 7 continuous days prior to service acceptance.
- Completed referral form arrive at least 4 weeks prior to the anticipated date of service acceptance.
- Prospective clients must visit the service, meet others in the community for at least 1 day prior to service acceptance.
- Formal review of progress will take place 1 month after service acceptance, then every three months.
- Referrals are made to [admin@stpaulshostel.co.uk](mailto:admin@stpaulshostel.co.uk) and we advise that organisations who are considering making a referral or individuals who self-refer contact our Team by telephone first.

## **AFTER SERVICE ACCEPTANCE**

- House rules must be followed.
- Clients must engage with other agencies that are involved in supporting their recovery. For example relapse prevention and group work with Alcoholics Anonymous, the County Drugs and Alcohol service provider.
- The Community Meetings are a mandatory.
- A programme of activities will be given that includes budgeting, individual and group counselling. These are part of the recovery programme and clients are expected to take part.
- All new clients must agree to a full drug screen prior to admission/and/or to be breathalysed for one week prior to admission to project.
- All perspective clients would be expected to supply a breath twice daily and also to be drug screened periodically where appropriate whilst in the shared house.
- If no beds are available at the time the assessment takes place, support will be offered after the 7 day negative testing period, and the use of the facilities will be offered to support the client's abstinence on a daily basis whilst waiting for a vacancy to become available.

## **SERVICES AVAILABLE**

- Housing Management Service
- Group CBT counselling
- 1-2-1 Counselling
- Substance testing
- Job Coach
- Skills Development (including cooking, budgeting, digital skills)
- Access to volunteering programmes

## JOINING THE COMMUNITY- OUR EXPECTATIONS

- The terms of the licence agreement must be adhered to at all times and all charges/rents due must be paid on time and in full.
- The use of any illegal drug or other substance or the possession of associated equipment, illegal item (e.g. knives or weapons) and/or colluding in their use by another resident is strictly prohibited.
- Violence or the threat of violence towards other residents or staff is not tolerated.
- Behaviour (verbal or physical) which is likely to adversely affect the smooth running of the house or endanger the psychological safety of any other residents or staff is not allowed.
- Residents must take good care of all fixtures and fittings, in their rooms and communal areas.
- Comply with all reasonable requests made by members of staff.
- Overnight absences are not allowed without advanced permission from a member of staff.
- Everyone is expected to carry out communal duties, in accordance with the schedule.
- Breathalyser and/or drug tests must be undertaken when asked by staff.
- Residents must not be under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substances while on the property (including garden).
- Smoking is not allowed inside the house. It is only allowed at the marked external smoking areas.
- Residents are not permitted to have guests, male or female, in their bedrooms at any time.
- All visitors must sign the Visitors' Book on arrival and departure from the premises. Residents are responsible for their guests.
- Residents must not engage in any illegal activity, including theft from other residents/staff and items from communal areas.
- Under no circumstances should clients view, use or distribute any offensive materials whilst in communal areas of the house (e.g. pornography, racist materials etc.)