

ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON

Guests Rules and Responsibilities Contract

All Guests will be treated with dignity and respect.

All Guests Agree to the Following:

1. To follow ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON policies, procedures, and instructions.
2. To respect the property of others in the program and the property of hosting churches.
3. To be alcohol and drug free while participating in the ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON Program.
4. To only smoke cigarettes outside in designated smoking areas.
5. To treat others with dignity and respect, with behavior that is free from violence, threats and intimidation. This includes verbal, physical and sexual abuse.
6. To keep knives or any other type of weapon out of your possession while in ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON.
7. To make a commitment of personal development and movement away from life on the streets.
8. Reviewing and signing the guest contract, release of information and zero tolerance policy.
9. Attend the mandatory Guest Orientation, sign, and accept the Guest Contract and maintain consistent attendance.

EVENING DISPATCH

- Only approved and invited Guests are allowed on the property during dispatch hours (5:30pm- 6:45pm). If you are walking with a friend who is NOT a ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON Guest, “lose” the friend prior to coming onto the property. If he/she will NOT part from you, just keep walking! YOU will be held responsible for friends who come onto the property with you or to see you and YOU will suffer the consequence of that.

- You may bring an open drink container onto the property with you, but you must dispose of it prior to boarding the church bus. **NO DRINKS ARE ALLOWED ON THE BUS.**

- Load the bus from the back to the front. If you are first to board this means, go all the way to the BACK.

- Participants in ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON may only spend the night at a church after being checked in by an Innkeeper and having passed the Breathalyzer during dispatch.

- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO WALK IN AT A DOWNTOWN (OR ANY!) CHURCH without having gone through dispatch. Attempting to do so is grounds for immediate and permanent dismissal. NO exceptions.

- **ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON has a zero-tolerance policy for alcohol and drugs.** You MUST be able to pass the breathalyzer test each evening to be dispatched. No excuses, cough syrup, medicine, mouthwash etc. We’ve heard them all before. If it is suspected, you are under the influence of any other drug you will not be permitted to dispatch with the group.

- ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON is a ministry to meet a current NEED and is NOT a convenient place to “crash” when you want to. We expect perfect attendance and

want our available beds to be used by persons who have nowhere else to go. We will NOT hold a bed for you to occupy a few nights per week while you stay elsewhere. Sporadic attendance will not be tolerated.

- Use of this building and these facilities is a PRIVILEGE extended to us through the grace of First Methodist Church. Out of respect for that privilege, we want to do everything we can to be good stewards and be respectful of the property and leave it in good condition each evening. Please don't leave your trash, store your backpacks, or leave drink cups lying around as you leave.

STAYING AT THE CHURCH

- Upon arrival at the church, you will be greeted by the Host Team who will show you where the eating and sleeping areas are located; where the restrooms are located; and other areas accessible to the ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON Ministry. Please DO NOT go into areas of the church or campus that are not specifically allowed for ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON use. If the church allows smoking, ask for the location of the smoking door.
- Anytime you use the restroom facilities at the church, be respectful of the other Guests and the host who must clean up after you. Always FLUSH both the toilet and/or urinal. Place paper towels in the waste basket not on the floor or in the toilet.
- You will be hosted by families comprised of small children all the way up to elderly grandparents. WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE AND BE RESPECTFUL.
- Unlike other shelters in the Lexington area, your backpack and personal possessions will be SAFE AND SECURE while you stay with us. Place your backpacks on your bed while you are in the eating or recreational area. DO NOT TOUCH OR OTHERWISE BOTHER THE PROPERTY OF ANYONE OTHER THAN YOUR OWN. Anyone caught pilfering or moving another person's property without that person's permission will be dismissed from ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON.

- Any prescription drugs **MUST BE IN THE ORIGINAL BOTTLE WITH YOUR NAME ON IT!! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

- **NO PANHANDLING!** If you have a specific need, you should voice that to the evening Innkeeper who will do his best to meet that need if possible. **NEVER BE GUILTY OF ASKING ANY OF OUR HOSTS FOR MONEY, CLOTHING, TRANSPORTATION, ETC.** However, if the subject comes up in the course of normal conversation or if a Host specifically **ASKS** you if you have a need, you may respond honestly.

- Be respectful to others sleeping in the room or area with you. **SILENCE CELL PHONES** so they do not ring in the middle of the night. If you must place or receive a call, **LEAVE THE AREA WHERE OTHERS ARE SLEEPING,** and go to another area where you can talk privately without disturbing others.

- If the smoking door is near the sleeping area, be respectful of keeping it closed so cold air does not come in. Also, don't slam the door to keep from waking others.

- If you cannot sleep and wish to read, go to an area where the light does not disturb others. If you are permitted to make coffee in that area, do so quietly to be respectful of others still sleeping.

- If you cannot sleep, you **MAY NOT LEAVE THE PREMISES!!! This is considered a "WALK-OUT" and will result in immediate and PERMANENT DISMISSAL from ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON - LEXINGTON.** No excuses. If you need to leave a downtown church earlier than the usual 6:00am release time you must have a legitimate reason for leaving (i.e. going to a job). You must arrange leaving with the Host and leave only with the Host's permission. Any other than the agreed departure is considered a "WALK-OUT".

- Get along and honor our policy of Mutual Respect. If you have a difference with one of your brothers, find a way to keep your distance and leave your differences long enough to sleep overnight at the church.

- You will be given a sack lunch as you depart each morning. **Take only ONE lunch** until all overnight guests have received a lunch. If there are any extra lunches, you may ask the morning host or morning driver if you may take an extra. The lunches are not yours until they are distributed in the morning; do not go through them if they are stored in the refrigerator.

- You may be given the opportunity to help the hosts disassemble bedding. Please be as helpful and courteous as you can by removing the linens from your bed and placing them in the receptacle for laundry service.

- **DO NOT** ask the Host Church to allow you to store personal belongings at their facility.

- Each morning you will be dropped off at Calvary Baptist Church on East High Street. **Do not ask the driver to deliver you to any other location. He is not your personal cab driver!**

Acknowledgement of Understanding

I _____, (print name) have attended the 2018-20019 mandatory Room In The Inn - Lexington orientation. I am fully aware of the policies and procedures of ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON and fully understand my responsibilities as a guest of this ministry. I will abide by these policies and procedures and accept any consequence without claim against ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON and or its participating churches and volunteers should I violate these policies and procedures.

Guest Signature

Date

Witness Signature

ROOM IN THE INN - LEXINGTON Chairman