

Common Ground Principles for Supportive Housing Programs and Reservoir Hill

(adapted from "Common Ground -- Not Battle Ground" prepared by CPHA)

Adopted Sept 22, 2005

Principle	Provider	Community
<p>General Commitment Providers and community agree to work together in a respectful, collaborative manner to find mutually beneficial common ground.</p>	<p>Providers sustain their commitment to contribute in a positive manner to the overall growth, prosperity, and well-being of Reservoir Hill.</p>	<p>Community recognizes the important need for supportive housing programs run by responsible management.</p>
<p>Good Neighbors Providers and community observe the common sense principles that good neighbors apply in communities every day.</p>	<p>Providers agree to work with community and local authorities to address issue that impact the quality of life in Reservoir Hill.</p>	<p>Community agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the mission of well-run supportive housing programs to help those seeking housing and supportive services and move forward to become productive, active members of the community. - Share positive experiences working with supportive housing programs with other communities where housing programs may be locating.
<p>Liaison and Communication Both providers and community agree to develop regular communication with each other</p>	<p>Providers agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage a Community Relations Liaison to attend community meetings at least several times per year - Identify people within the program that community representatives may contact regarding the program's operation. The contacts will include the name and telephone number of the program's primary contact and a second representative who serves as a back up. - Make every effort to respond to questions and concerns in a timely manner. 	<p>Community agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invite the provider representative to attend appropriate community meetings, both public meetings and board and committee meetings
<p>Sharing of Resources Providers and community recognize that they each can offer the other valuable resources and information and agree to share with one another.</p>	<p>Providers will strive to be available as a resource to the community in a variety of ways that may include the following where applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voluntary participation of clients in volunteer activities such as neighborhood clean-ups, community fairs, neighborhood watch, snow removal, etc. 	<p>Community agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome and encourage community involvement by the providers and their clients and offer regular opportunities for such community involvement to take place - Support housing opportunities for people successfully completing treatment programs
<p>Responsiveness Providers and community agree to move swiftly to identify and resolve problems.</p>	<p>Providers agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designate a staff person to serve as a Community Relations Liaison, who will carry out the following functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work with the community representatives and local authorities to address issues that impact the quality of life in the community - Attend appropriate community meetings, including both public and board meetings - Work with communities to seek appropriate and regular police presence to curb drug-related criminal activity in the community. - Work together with the community to address issues that arise between them. This may include mediation with a mutually agreed upon mediator when issues cannot be resolved through the best efforts of both sides. 	<p>Community agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designate a community resident to serve as liaison to the provider - Request the mediation of a mutually agreed upon mediator when issues cannot be resolved through the best efforts of both sides. - Contact the liaison via phone call or letter to address community concerns - Include the liaison in all communications to the community at large, including email list
<p>Community Outreach Providers and community should respect each other's roles, share information promptly, and try to understand each other's concerns.</p>	<p>A provider who is planning to locate an additional supportive housing program in Reservoir Hill agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide information about the proposed program to the leadership of the RHIC - Present to the RHIC how the provider will adhere to the principles outlined in this "Common Ground" document 	<p>Community agrees to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be respectful to providers and clients in community meetings - Agree to listen with an open mind to provider's presentation, to thoughtfully consider the information, and not to oppose the siting of a supportive housing program that accepts these common ground guidelines solely on the basis of the clients who will be served.