

Eligibility and Expectations

ZEELAND DIACONAL COMMITTEE

(08/11)

WELCOME! *We commend you for your courage in choosing life for your child. We are looking forward to having you at the Family LIFE Center. It is our hope you will be greatly blessed during your time with us. The following guidelines have been established in order to insure the well being of each person in the home and to present opportunities for enjoyment, growth, and rest.*

ELIGIBILITY

1. Residents must be pregnant at the time of admission.
2. Residents must be free from the obligation of caring for other children at the time of admission.
3. Residents must demonstrate a willingness to follow the expectations of the Family LIFE Center by signing the resident contract. (If the resident is not a legal adult, parental/guardian signature is also required.)

ADMISSIONS

1. Residents will pay a deposit of \$50.00 or sign an agreement to have deposit taken out of first month's wages. This deposit will be given back to them as long as room has been kept clean and damage free during the resident's stay.
2. A list must be submitted for approval of the names, addresses and phone numbers of sponsor and relatives that resident wishes to be able to occasionally visit overnight.
3. Residents must complete the requirements of the admission packet including: Physician signed physical health form, STD, HIV, and hepatitis testing; finding a sponsor; completing the admission questionnaire, and having a list from sponsor or parents of acceptable visitors, friends, boyfriend(s).
4. Residents are required to apply for and receive cash assistance when appropriate on an individual basis under the supervision and direction of the FLC program coordinator.
5. Residents who are on Medicaid are required to have Priority Health Ins. While living at the FLC.

GOAL SETTING

Each resident will commit to meeting once a week with the Program Facilitator for the purpose of establishing personal goals and participating in personal growth activities. It is our sincere desire to give you opportunities to reach for your dreams and have a successful future.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

FINANCIAL /TIME MANAGEMENT

While at FLC you have three options for use of at least 20 hours of your time a week:

1. You may go to school and work part-time.
2. If you have finished your high school education, you may work full time.
3. You may volunteer at an approved community organization.

If after an agreed upon time you are neither working or going to school for at least 20 hours a week, a volunteer post and/or extra jobs in the home will be assigned to you for the those 20 hours. You will be required to be dressed and ready for the day as well, with your room in order by 8:00 a.m.

It is your responsibility to work with the House parents in your efforts to obtain proper childcare and transportation. All rides and childcare must be cleared through the office.

Assistance will be provided in connecting you with the correct agencies for WIC, Medicaid and to enroll in subsidized daycare if needed. It is your responsibility to complete all the necessary paperwork and attend appointments.

You will need to commit to meeting with the Program Facilitator regarding budgeting. This is an opportunity for you to develop a working budget for yourself that will help you with your future plans.

You may not open credit card accounts or use credit cards while at the Family LIFE Center. If a resident comes in with credit card debt, she will be required to make payments each month.

Residents are required to pay \$50.00 per week for living expenses. If the resident has no income, the resident will have the opportunity to work for 5 hours at the Family Life Center to pay for their portion of the living expenses.

FAMILY LIVING

All household members are responsible to do their part to maintain a positive home atmosphere by helping to establish and follow house rules based on: respect for others, God and self, honesty, consideration, and cooperation. Participation in all household activities and responsibilities is required in order to insure that the house runs smoothly and maintains a positive atmosphere.

All household members will attend regular family meetings in order to get acquainted with household members, become familiar with the house and establish and maintain positive relationships within the home.

Each household member is responsible for assisting in the planning, purchasing, preparing and cleaning up of meals.

VISITORS

We think it is important that you are able to have friends and family come and visit. To accommodate you the following guidelines must be observed:

- ◆ Advance notice must be given to the house parents

- ◆ In consideration of the other house members:
 - A FLC Staff member must be home when visitors come to the Family LIFE Center.
 - Visitors to FLC may stay for up to three hours at a time.
 - Visitors may stay until 6:00 PM on Sunday, 10:00 PM Monday-Thursday and 11:00 Fri-Sat.
 - Male guests may come and visit in the common living space (living room, dining room and kitchen) when two FLC staff or volunteers are available.

TIME AWAY FROM HOME

Time away from home is allowed provided the following qualifications are met:

- ◆ You obtain permission from the house parents at least 24 hours in advance.
- ◆ You are expected to be in the house by 10:00 PM, Sunday through Thursday, and by 11:00 PM, Friday and Saturday.
- ◆ All your household and personal responsibilities need to be completed.
- ◆ Two weeks advance notice for visiting family on Christmas and Spring Break.
- ◆ You may visit your relatives, sponsor and mentor overnight as long as you have obtained permission from house parents five days in advance and the person is on your admissions name list.
- ◆ Friends and activities must align themselves with the Family LIFE Center guidelines
- ◆ You have a specific time and activity to attend and it has been OK'd ahead of time with the house parents
- ◆ You participate at least twice a month in household outings and/or activities.

FRIENDS

Visits and outings with friends are allowed if the following qualifications are met:

- ◆ Sponsor must bring a list of your friends and activities with them to the second interview that meet with their approval and that align themselves with the wishes of your parents. (We encourage all parents to attend the second interview.)
- ◆ All requirements under Time Away From FLC guidelines are met
- ◆ Friends are welcome to visit under the Visitors guidelines

BOYFRIENDS

Visits and outings with boyfriends are allowed if the following qualifications are met:

- ◆ You need written approval from parents stating any concerns, guidelines or restrictions they may have.
- ◆ Boyfriend must meet at least two times with the house parent's and be able to demonstrate that he will treat you with respect and consideration.
- ◆ Approved outings are limited to twice a month.
- ◆ All requirements under Time Away From FLC guidelines are met.
- ◆ Boyfriends are welcome to visit following the visitor guidelines.

SCHOOLING

If you are in school you are required to attend regularly.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

We feel it is beneficial for all household members to get involved in Christian activities that will help them with their spiritual growth, and we encourage you to get established in such activities.

Our household policy is that each household member will attend church each Sunday. We will do all we can to assist you in finding a church in the area that you feel comfortable in, and assist in finding transportation to and from church activities.

“You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29: 13

TELEPHONE

You may not accept collect calls. You may purchase or earn phone cards for long distance phone calls. No calls are permitted to be made or received after 10:00 p.m. All phone calls need to be limited to 20 minutes per call.

MUSIC

You are allowed to have your own radio and stereo in your room as long as courtesy and discretion are observed. Common areas will play music that conveys the FLC belief system and meets with house parent’s approval.

“Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - Think about such things.” Philippians 4:8

TELEVISION & VCR

Televisions are not allowed in the resident's rooms.

In the common area, television and movies may be watched as long as courtesy and discretion are used. The TV will remain off during the weekdays until 8:00 p.m. On Weekends only PG rated programs are allowed until 8:00 p.m.

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Romans 12:2

READING MATERIALS

We have a library of Christian fiction and non-fiction from which you can choose.

VEHICLES

Vehicles are a privilege. The keys for the vehicle will be turned over to the houseparents. Usage of the vehicle will be earned with the card system.

Card System

The card system is a system of earned privileges as follows:

The Red card consists of: No car use, No cell phone use, Wake up time is 8:00 and bedtime is 10:00.

The yellow card consists of: Car use to appointments only, Cell phone use in Common area only, Be up by 8:30 and go to bed later. Visitors can come over with 24 hour notice. Outings upon houseparent approval - 48 hour notice.

The green card consists of: Open car use and ability to transport residents. Ability to carry cell phone at all times. No regulated bedtime or wake up time. No need for 24 hour notice for visits, just houseparent approval.

Residents start at the Yellow Card level. Residents move up card levels by accomplishing goals, finishing chores on time and doing a stellar job, meeting on time for appointments, etc. Residents move down card levels by not accomplishing goals, chores, appointments, etc.

<p>The house parents and board of FLC reserve the right to change or add to any of these expectations at any time.</p>
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