

A Place for Us Ministries

Guidelines for Living

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs and tobacco are NOT allowed on the premises of *A Place for Us*. Violation of this rule is reason for immediate dismissal.

APPOINTMENTS

All doctor, dentist, and WIC appointments are made through the house staff. It is your responsibility to keep her informed of all your appointments. They must be put on the house schedule **and** your personal schedule. Appointments may not be scheduled while a program is in session at the home or office, unless it is an emergency, which will be deemed by the staff. You must have cash or Medicaid to pay for your visit. Visits cannot be billed. *A Place for Us* is not financially responsible for any personal items, medications, or prescriptions.

ATTITUDE/RESPECT

You need to respect the rights and belongings of others.

There should be no back talk or arguing with staff or with the other residents.

Please take care of the property and facilities of *A Place for Us*. The home belongs to God and we are thankful for what He has given to us.

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

When you are in the position of having to be dependent on other people, you must display an appreciative and grateful attitude. You cannot make demands on them. You are at the mercy of their kindness. ALWAYS SAY, "THANK YOU!"

Example: Since you rely on others for transportation, it is completely inappropriate to make demands. Do not expect them to drop what they are doing at your command. There is not one staff person or volunteer who is paid to drive you around.

Pouting and sulking are not acceptable. Complaining about the food is unacceptable. Unless you are paying for it, you do not have the right to complain about it. If you are critical of someone's cooking, you win clean-up duty for the day and cooking duty the following day. If you truly have a problem with someone's cooking or the food, privately tell a staff person.

We are very serious about your taking responsibility for your attitude. We will not allow any resident's attitude to negatively impact the atmosphere of the home for a long period of time.

BEDS

Beds are to be made after getting up each morning. Sheets must be washed once a week at the time the house staff designates as your laundry day.

MY FATHERS CLOSET

My Fathers Closet is our clothing and baby closet. We have a large variety of maternity clothing and baby items that have been donated to meet your and your baby's needs. These items may be purchased with "Mommy Bucks" earned during your stay.

Maternity clothes are loaned out to you and must be returned upon discharge.

BORROWING

There is NO borrowing or lending of ANYTHING. If you do not have sufficient funds, you need to notify the houseparent.

CHECK-OUT

We want every girl to leave with the approval of A Place for Us. Any girl who leaves without consent of A Place for Us leaves in rebellion.

If you leave in rebellion, you may not have contact with any of the girls in the program.

Upon your scheduled departure, you will be checked out by a houseparent to insure you have all of your belongings.

The House parent **must be present in the room** when you are packing to leave the program. Items taken from the home **must** correlate with the "Personal Belongings Intake" sheet.

Dismissal:

Your dismissal time **MUST** be arranged with the Program Coordinator or the Director.

At the time of your discharge from the program, you are to take all of your belongings. We do not have room to store former resident's personal items. **Therefore, items left by mistake MUST be picked up within 48 hours, or they become property of A Place for Us and will be placed in the Blessings Closet or thrown away.**

CHORES

Each resident will be responsible for daily and weekly chores. The house mother will divide the chores between the residents. Chores are to be completed during the scheduled chore time

CHURCH SERVICES

You must dress suitably for the church you will be attending.

You must bring your Bible, notebook, and pen with you to church.

You are required to attend church services Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, and some Sunday nights, when applicable (for special studies that may be helpful)

CLOTHES

You must dress modestly. You must wear bras (that fit you). You must wear underwear. No skin-tight clothes, no tank tops, no crop tops, no halter tops, no short shorts, no short mini-skirts, no gang clothing, etc.

Guidelines for clothing

- Clothing must be clean and modest at all times
- Short shorts are not to be worn at any time
- Some type of clothing, in addition to underclothes, must be worn at all times, including to and from the bathroom.
- A bra must be worn at all times, except when sleeping.
- You are responsible for your own hygiene. Neatness and cleanliness are required. Showers are required daily.
- No low cut shirts showing cleavage should be worn.
- No t-shirts advertising rock bands, alcohol, New Age, etc
- Not showing proper respect for all persons and their property

If working on the floor in The Alcoves, The Secret Place, and The Café...

- ❖ NO JEANS
- ❖ NO FLIP FLOPS

CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS

You must be willing to be considerate of the staff and the other residents.

If a girl needs quiet time to study, you must respect her and her wishes and remain quiet in the room.

COUNSELING

In your time at the home, there will be a greater emphasis on your studies in the Learning Center than on individual counseling. Counseling can never take the place of personal prayer and searching the Scriptures for answers to our struggles and needs. It is our goal that you would develop a deep trust and dependence on Jesus Christ more than on a counselor. However, all staff members are available to help in individual decision making, planning for your future, or discussing personal issues from the past. Feel free to make an appointment with the staff member with whom you are most comfortable.

Family counseling will be required after you have been in the program for a couple of weeks. The home's goal is to provide monthly family counseling for each resident. Staff assessment of your situation will determine how frequently we would like to meet with your family. We may request this counseling session at the time of your visitation privilege, or if you are given the privilege of transporting your daughter to her doctor's appointment. **RESIDENTS ARE NOT TO COUNSEL ONE ANOTHER!**

COURTESY IN THE BATHROOMS

You must always leave the bathroom clean and ready for the next person to use--showers, sinks, and toilets. You must always clean your hair and toothpaste out of the sink. You must remove your belongings from the countertops when you leave the bathroom.

There is a fifteen-minute bathroom limit (this is not a shower limit).

You must always flush the toilet and leave the bathroom clean when finished.

- When entering and exiting the shower, please be properly clothes. No nudity.

- Put away all your personal belongings in their designated place. Nothing should be on the countertops. (This includes curling irons, etc.)

CRITICAL WORDS

We are to build each other up, not tear each other down. It is our goal to have a loving atmosphere where we speak blessings over each other. We do not want you to be critical of one another. Many of you have been very wounded over the years from hurtful words. We want the hurting to stop! We will do our best not to allow this hurt to continue.

DISCIPLINE

Each wrong action has consequences. Each discipline has a purpose...to grow you into what God wants you to become. Just as the Lord has provided boundaries for us, we must also provide boundaries for you. This does not mean that the rules can never be changed, added to and/or adjusted. There will also be other disciplines and rules within the household which are not written down on paper. These will occur within the context of the situation in which they are applied. They are no less important than the rules which are in writing. Discipline for disobedience and wrong attitudes will be given. Extra work details, restriction from privileges, essays, and even dismissal will be used.

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he adopts as a son...” Heb. 12:6

DUTIES

You will be assigned and responsible for household duties. These duties are supervised by the house staff.

You will not be reminded to do your work details. It will be your responsibility to find out what details you have and to do them without reminders.

You must do your own work details.

If your work details are not done completely and correctly, you will have to redo your work. If you have to redo work twice, you will lose a privilege.

As special needs arise, you may be asked to cooperate in doing extra work details.

“Do your work as unto the Lord”

EXPLICIT CONVERSATION

You may NOT engage in explicit sexual conversation with other residents. You may not give out detailed information to other residents regarding any past immoral activity. We take this very seriously. Bragging about, laughing at, or encouraging any type of destructive behavior is strictly forbidden. We will not allow you to hinder the growth and well-being of another resident. If this is a problem, we will ask you to leave.

FIRE ALARM PROCEDURE

In case of fire, notify the house staff immediately. Then walk, do not run, to the nearest exit. Close all doors and windows and turn off lights in your location. At night, shoes and robes must be worn, and a towel or blanket should be taken to protect your mouth and nose from smoke.

FOOD

The home operates as a family. We share our food as a family. All food you or your family brings into the home must be enough to share with everyone. You may not hoard food. You may not write your name on food. **Exception:** Food that is left over from a meal. Please be considerate of your portions when serving your plate.

We do not use food stamps or WIC in the home

FOUL LANGUAGE

You may not use foul language in our home. We understand that this is often a habit and it is our desire to help you break it. If you begin to ask God to help you clean up your mouth, you'll be amazed at the results.

FREEDOM APPOINTMENTS

Each girl will have freedom appointments scheduled weekly. However, if you need immediate help or prayer, please notify the house staff. Since the staff of A Place for Us works as a team, it is not necessary to wait for your freedom appointment when you have an immediate need.

After freedom sessions, you may be given an assignment. It is very important to complete that assignment before the next session or on the assignment date.

Residents are not to counsel each other under any circumstance.

Freedom appointments are not optional

INTEGRITY

We expect you to walk in honesty, truthfulness and integrity. We want you to begin planting seeds of truth into your life.

1. If the temperature in the house is too hot or cold, you should report it to the houseparent and ask them to adjust the thermostat. You are not to touch the thermostat yourself.
2. Everyone is expected to take care of their clothes and personal belongings or trash in the van, living room, dining room, bathrooms, or laying about your room.
3. Closets and drawers are to be kept orderly.
4. Rooms are to be kept neat at all times. Room checks will be made periodically throughout the day. Privileges may be pulled for unclean rooms.
5. Glasses are to stay in the kitchen and dining room, never in the family room or bathrooms.
6. You are not to drive any vehicle, operate machinery, or power tool without permission.
7. You must ask permission before turning on the television.
8. To help cut operating costs, please remember to turn off the lights when you leave an area for a long period of time.
9. Doors at night are to be locked by the house staff and are to stay locked until the next morning unless you have an emergency.

JEWELRY

We have no idea why, but lately we have seen a lot of rebellion centered on jewelry and body piercing. It seems to have a strong hold over a number of individuals.

- 1) Most of you are going to need jobs.
- 2) Most of your employers are going to be over the age of thirty, and,
- 3) Most of you are in a difficult situation.
- 4) We do not want you to have any more strikes against you than you already have.

Therefore, we have established the following jewelry guidelines that we take very seriously:

GUIDELINES FOR JEWELRY

We advise you not to bring in any jewelry. We will not be responsible for any lost or stolen jewelry. The day you enter the program, you may come in wearing no more than two pairs of earrings in your lower ear lobes. All other pieces of jewelry will be reviewed by the house mother.

You will not be allowed to bring in any jewelry (or anything else, for that matter) which has astrological symbols, demonic symbols or satanic symbols on it.

All jewelry admitted into the home is at the discretion of the House mother. The rule is: If there is even the slightest doubt about a piece of jewelry, key chain, etc., then we won't allow it in.

With the exception of two holes in the bottom of your ear lobes, absolutely no other form of body piercing is permitted.

No hidden jewelry (i.e., tongue rings and other piercing)

KINDNESS

We expect all of our residents to be kind to one another and to every other person who comes into the home. We will not tolerate residents being cruel to one another. People with extremely low self-esteem target other people in a cruel manner. It makes them feel more powerful. We will not allow you to consistently hurt another resident's feelings. If you are having a problem with someone, inform a staff person.

LAUNDRY

Each resident is responsible to do her own laundry. You will be assigned a laundry day. You may not use the washer or dryer on another room's assigned day. You are free to use the washer and dryer on "free days" with house mother permission.

LEARNING CENTER

It is a requirement to continue your education while living in our home. The GED program is offered for girls ages 17 and older. If you are under 17, you will be required to continue the work that your school sends to us. We are continually amazed at the vast improvement of our residents' grades due to the home school tutoring program. We have certain courses that are primarily taught by tutors to our residents individually. If you are attending the Learning Center, we expect the following things from you:

- You must be ready for the Education Coordinator during your assigned time. Do not make a tutor wait for you. You are to have all of your homework assignments complete and ready to give to your tutor.
- **YOU MUST DISPLAY A RESPECTFUL AND APPRECIATIVE ATTITUDE TO THE TEACHERS.** These volunteers are not paid. They do not have to do this for you. We will not allow an ungrateful or disrespectful attitude from you to cause our tutors to leave. Other residents want their help. We will not allow the selfishness, ungratefulness, or rudeness of one resident to ruin the opportunity for future residents.
- The Learning Center is the heart of our program. It is not optional. It is required.
- You cannot be a disruption to other residents. It will not be tolerated.
- You must participate. You may not punish the staff or other residents with a bad attitude. It is extremely self-centered to take away from someone else their opportunity to receive help or healing. It will not be tolerated. You will be dismissed to a different room. If you are dismissed from the Learning Center three or more times, the staff will hold a meeting to discuss whether you should be dismissed from the program.
- You must be dressed for the day (makeup (if desired), hair, and clothes) before coming to the Learning Center. You may not bring in blankets, pillows or stuffed animals. You must have your **full** water bottle with you (if desired).
- You must be at the Learning Center door by 8:55 a.m. Go to the restroom before Learning Center begins. **BAD ATTITUDES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE LEARNING CENTER!** If you are not allowed in the Learning Center because of a bad attitude, you are required to make up the time.
- The only thing allowed on your table is your Learning Center notebook (GED book) and your water bottle. Everything else must be put away.
- If you are school age or if you have not gotten your GED, you will be required to work through our home school program. Deciding that you are not interested in getting a high school degree or GED is not an option.
- You cannot leave the Learning Center to talk to staff in the office, mail letters, get water, etc. All of this must be done before L.C. begins or during lunch hour.
- You must abide by all the Learning Center's posted rules and submit to the authority of the L.C. instructors.
- You will be required to make up any hours you miss between 9 a.m. and noon due to illness, doctor appointments, etc.

LIGHTS OUT

You are to be in your room and completely ready for bed by 10pm, except for special circumstances. You must be **in bed** by 10:00 p.m. Sunday through Thurs-day and 11:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights. You read for one hour after bedtime. Lights are out at 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight Friday and Saturday.

LYING

Lying breeds mistrust and it destroys relationships. If we are going to be able to help you, you must not lie to us. Proverbs 6 tells us that God hates a lying tongue.

MAIL AND PACKAGES

The house staff or office staff will open all incoming mail. Money received will be taken and locked up for your protection. The money will be placed in your envelope to be taken out as you need it. You must have permission to mail packages and you must understand that the house staff reserves the right to inspect ALL outgoing mail and packages.

MEALS

You may not skip meals. Breakfast and lunch are your responsibility. You must arrange your time to prepare and eat your meal and be on time for appointments. **THERE WILL BE NO EATING IN THE VAN OR BRINGING IT TO THE LEARNING CENTER.**

Guidelines for Meal Preparation:

- Wash your hands before dealing with the food in any way
- Please use good hygiene. For example, do not use the spoon that you are cooking with to taste the food you are preparing.
- In meal preparation, the #1 prep person for the evening meal needs to take out frozen food for the next day. Check on the menu for any additional food preparation instructions.
- After everyone has been served, you may then go back for seconds.
- You may not fast any meals without permission.
- After the meal, please scrape all leftovers off of plate into trash, rinse your plate and utensils and place them in the dishwasher.
- No food is allowed outside the kitchen and dining area.

- Girls must eat at the dinner table as a family unit.

MEDICINE AND DOCTOR'S ORDERS

You are to be fully responsible for taking all prescribed medications including your prenatal vitamins and iron. Refusal to take prescriptions that help ensure your baby's health is utterly selfish and irresponsible. Not following Doctor's orders, including taking vitamins, is reason for dismissal. If you refuse to be responsible in this very small thing, how is anyone to believe that you will be responsible in the truly hard things?

MEDICATION

When you enter the program, all medications (including prenatal vitamins and iron) must be turned into the House Mother. The staff will distribute your medication each day or as needed. Residents are responsible for all other forms of medication. Example: inhalers, creams for infections. The use of castor oil is strictly prohibited. **Do not** bring it into the home.

MEDICAL PROBLEMS

If you have a medical problem you **must** inform a staff member. We cannot appropriately take care of you if you do not let us know what is happening.

MONEY

If possible, a \$30.00 deposit is needed upon admittance into the home. This fund is exclusively for miscellaneous items that you may need while living in the home. Residents are financially responsible for all their personal toiletry items. APFU is not responsible for any money that is stolen or misplaced outside of our care. Residents MAY NOT lend money to other residents.

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

1. Music will be provided by the home. Therefore, residents are not allowed to bring their own personal radios, headsets, tapes, or CDs. **WE WILL NOT STORE THEM FOR YOU!!!**
2. Only Christian music is allowed. This does not mean that we believe that all secular music is wrong. We are simply attempting to create a spiritual atmosphere that is conducive with the purpose for coming to A Place for Us.
3. Television may be watched when the schedule permits and with permission from an on-duty staff member. Program selection will be left to the discretion of the on-duty staff members.
4. Residents may not bring any books, magazines, other reading materials, or videos into the home. Reading material will be provided by the home. Exception: you may bring in your Bible and books required for school.

PARENTING/ADOPTION

The home does not promote either parenting or adoption. We encourage the residents to seek God's will and to listen to their parents' counsel. If you would like to talk to someone regarding adoption, please let the staff know. In addition, we will teach you principles of adoption and parenting through required reading, workbooks, personal testimonies, and Special Links. We expect your attitude to be attentive, regardless of your decision.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

All residents must shower or bathe every day. All residents must shower in the morning before breakfast or in the evening when time is given. Your hair must be kept clean and neatly combed. Your clothing must be clean and pressed. You must use deodorant. All residents must brush their teeth several times per day. If you have a particular hygiene problem, please feel free to ask for help or advice.

PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality is essential at the home. You are expected to be on time for all scheduled activities - meals, Learning Center, chores, meetings, and appointments.

RESPECT

You may not talk disrespectfully to your parents during your stay at the home. You may not be disrespectful on the phone or during visitation.

If your parents come to visit you or send you money (including the weekly allowance), you must send them a thank-you note. Thank-you notes are to be put in the Office Manager's box on Monday morning in order to qualify for the next visitation. You are not eligible for future visitation privileges until you have sent out a thank-you note for your last visit.

ROOMS

You are responsible to keep your room neat at all times. We frequently give tours of the home. You can put your things under your bed in the storage provided or in your closet, but do not leave them tossed around your room. Beds shall be made before coming to breakfast. Dirty clothes are to be kept in the clothes hamper until Laundry Day. Rooms are to be ready for inspection by 8:10 a.m. or earlier if deemed by the house staff.

SCHEDULE

You are expected to abide by the daily schedule.

SCHOOL

We expect your work ethic to shine through everything you do in the Learning Center and in your schooling.

SELF MUTILATION

You are not allowed to intentionally hurt yourself in any way.

SHOPPING

Residents can go shopping for their personal needs on planned trips into town. You must take personal responsibility and plan ahead for what you need to buy. If you do not have something planned, you will have to either wait until the following trip into town.

When we go shopping, you may not purchase non-Christian books, or New Age paraphernalia.

You may not borrow money from any of the other girls.

When shopping, you are to stay together with a partner.

Shoplifting is reason for dismissal.

If you make plans to meet someone while shopping or during any other outings without staff permission, you will be dismissed. If you try to scam us by manipulating to see someone without staff permission, you will be dismissed. We realize you may not understand this guideline; however, it is for your safety. We have had residents whose past lifestyles could open us up to dangerous situations if they were to do this. Therefore, for everyone's well-being this is prohibited.

SMOKING

Smoking is strictly prohibited on the property of APFU. This rule shall be observed by all members of the home and their visitors.

Residents may not smoke on or off the property during their tenure at the home. Violation of this rule is reason for dismissal. Residents may not carry cigarettes or lighters on their person or bring these items into the home.

STAFF

You must treat all staff members with the utmost respect. As a sign of honor, all staff members and volunteers are referred to as Mr. or Miss.

Respond properly to those in authority (i.e., "yes mam", "yes sir", "please", "thank you", etc)

(We will fill you in on a secret – every resident that has ever had a problem with this guideline has had a problem with authority. It is one of our ways of spotting problems early on.)

STAFF QUARTERS

Staff rooms are off limits to residents. Under no circumstances shall a resident enter a staff person's room without the staff person's direct permission. Violation of this guideline is reason for dismissal.

STEALING

Stealing will not be tolerated. You will be dismissed.

SWIMMING

No diving ! This is for your own good and the good of your baby.

No pushing or shoving someone else into the water.

Please dry yourself off before entering the house.

Only modest one-piece swimsuits should be worn.

SUNBATHING

Although you may want to get a tan, please use wisdom. Getting severely sunburned is not wise.

TELEPHONES

- The office phone is off-limits to residents. Residents who use the office line without staff permission could be dismissed. The telephone is a privilege. However, it is typically the first privilege to go as a consequence for behavior problems or violations to the guidelines.
- We have only one phone line for all the residents to share. Therefore, the following guidelines are essential for fairness:
- Residents can receive two phone calls on Saturdays from 2-7pm. The calls should not exceed 10 minutes each, for a total of 20 minutes maximum. Residents are allowed to make two phone calls on Sundays from 2-5pm, which should also not exceed 10 minutes each. Parents/Guardians are welcomed to call, but residents can only talk to others, including birthfathers, only once either on Saturday or Sunday. Telephone use may not interfere with the home's activities or schedule. You cannot miss meals or group activities. These call can only be made during specified times set by the house mother.
- **NO CELL PHONES OR PAGERS WILL BE ALLOWED.**
- The House Mother will be the only persons allowed to answer the phone, unless they instruct you otherwise.
- Birth mothers can not call males. (with the exception of your father)

TOUR OF THE HOME

When you move into the home, you will be given a tour of the home. During the tour you will be told of the household rules. You must be willing to submit to the rules in order to stay.

VEHICLES

No resident will be allowed to drive a vehicle. If this occurs, the resident will be dismissed from the home.

- Must wear seatbelts when traveling
- Keep van clean after leaving it

VIOLENCE

Physical violence will not be tolerated. Any resident who engages in or threatens to use physical violence during her stay at the home will be immediately dismissed from the home. If a resident uses any form of physical violence, our policy is to call the police, file a report and have them taken off the property.

VISITATION

The guidelines for visitation are as follows:

The House Visitation hours are as follows:

No visitation for four weeks.

After four weeks, visitation is allowed on Saturdays from 2:00 pm-until 7:00pm (Family only; any other visitors (except for birthfathers) must be with guardian **and** house mother consent) **Reminder: These are guidelines which may be changed according to work completed or not completed, ministry activities, etc. Visitation is deemed by the housemother.**

***Before going on a visitation/shopping trip and when returning from a visitation/shopping trip, inventory will be taken by house staff and it will be added to your log-in sheet of personal items.**

You will not be allowed to go out with relatives, including parents, without the approval of the Primary House mother.

Your parents must schedule their weekend visitation through the House Staff. (House mother must be consulted Monday - Thursday for visitation privileges during the upcoming weekend). **Only the Primary House Mother** can schedule visitation. It is the resident's full responsibility to inform her family of the visitation policy. Once visiting arrangements have been made, they cannot be changed in the middle of a visit except for extreme circumstances.

Overnight visits are not permitted while you are pregnant with the exceptions of Thanksgiving Day (to return the day after Thanksgiving) and Christmas (to return on the evening of December 26th before 9pm). **However, we reserve the right, if in the best interest of the birthmother, to relinquish this privilege.**

BIRTHFATHER VISITATION

After four weeks, the father of the baby is allowed to have visitation on Sunday from **2:00-4:00**, only if:

- a) Your parents are in agreement (applies to only those 17 & under).
- b) He comes to "Support Person" meetings with House Staff during the first four weeks of your stay and completes the Basic Decision Making workbooks.
- c) He displays a minimum level of responsibility towards you and your baby by giving you \$30.00 monthly.
- d) Arrangements can be made for a male supervisor to be present at the home.

WORK

Girls may work (designated hours only) through The Secret Place, or the Café at The Alcoves. Each girl will volunteer assigned hours as an act of service and appreciation.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM

In order to be accepted into the program, you must agree to the following conditions:

- 1) You must be willing to submit to the staff as the authority in the home and over the program.
- 2) You must be willing to submit to all guidelines of the home. This program is not for everyone. If you are not at a place in your life where you really want your life to change, we think you would not be happy here. However, if you do choose to enter the program, you will be required to submit to the guidelines.
- 3) You must treat all staff members with respect.
- 4) You must have a willing heart.

Addition to Guidelines & Principles

Added June 18 2007

EARLY DISMISSAL

Birthmothers must write a letter of intention for early dismissal from our program. It must be hand delivered to the Director or full time housemother. The content of the letter must include Pros & Cons of the early dismissal, as well as your reason for leaving.

Non-acceptable reasons are:

1. Just want to
2. "_____ needs me to help them" God would not have brought you into this home if He needed you to help someone else. He wants us to work on ourselves first.

After the letter is given to proper administration, phone calls will not be allowed for 48 hours. After 48 hours of thinking through your decision and making a plan, you will then be allowed phone privileges to make necessary arrangements and start working on a support person to return to.

Birthmothers will not be allowed to leave our facility until you have an "approved" source for departure to a safe place, which will be determined by the Director. If these guidelines are followed, you will be allowed to redeem your Character Points; however Mommy Bucks will only be redeemed by completing the entire program.

Each birthmother **MUST** also do an exit interview before dismissal.

Agreement

I have read the "Principles & Guidelines" of A Place for Us Ministries. I understand what it says and agree to abide by these Principles & Guidelines of A Place for Us Ministries.

I understand that if I do not abide by the rules, disciplinary action or dismissal from the program may result.

I understand that I am a resident of the Home solely through grace and that I have the responsibility to share that same spirit. I realize my stay at the Home may be terminated at any time and for any reason or for no reason.

I understand that I am to refer back to these Principles & Guidelines through out my entire stay at A Place for Us and give it back to the house staff once my stay has ended.

I agree to release A PLACE FOR US MINISTRIES from any and all liability for any cause of action I may currently have or which may hereafter accrue for any action or in action of A PLACE FOR US MINISTRIES.

Signature of Resident

Date

Staff Member