

Program Information and Expectations

His Mansion Ministries

Deering, NH 03244

(603-464-5555) www.hismansion.com

The purpose of this document is for familiarizing you with His Mansion's program. We try as best we can to help you understand what you are committing to for your healing and change. It is not exhaustive of the "*Resident Guidelines*" that a person lives under while in the program. You will be given the resident guidelines and other documents upon your acceptance and entering of the program.

Introduction:

His Mansion Ministries is a Christ-centered residential healing/recovery community helping men and women between 18 and 35 years of age who struggle with physical, sexual, psychological, spiritual trauma, alcohol and drug addiction, pornography and sexual addiction, eating and other mental health disorders. This twelve month program consists of a rigorous work schedule, class work, group and individual counseling, medication administration and implementation of spiritual practices. All staff and people in treatment (residents) live on working farm on a 360 acre campus in SW New Hampshire.

The His Mansion community works actively and intentionally to provide an environment that fosters spiritual formation in the lives of all its participants both staff and residents. Through 37 years of discovery and growth we have developed a holistic approach that incorporates mind, body, spirit, and community. Spiritual formation is the core of our healing process focusing on the growth and development of disciples of Jesus on a daily basis. We have seen the Spirit of God work in amazing and effective ways through this process in the lives of residents and staff. As a result we believe replication of components of our process in churches, counseling communities, and educational institutions would have considerable impact in the lives of Christ followers for His kingdom.

The Program:

His Mansion's program is a strict, no-nonsense community where your recovery must be more important to you than it is to us! Residents are expected to work the program and exhibit a desire to change. We are best suited to help those struggling with addiction and trauma recovery. Candidates not at a point where they will surrender to the process need not apply. The staff genuinely cares about you and will not tolerate anyone sabotaging your recovery – even you!

His Mansion is a smoke-free, alcohol-free, and drug-free environment. Appropriate medical prescriptions are allowed. Applicants may not be wards of the state or mandated by the courts. Because we accept no state or federal monies, charge no fees, and accept only adults (over 18 years of age), His Mansion reserves the right to accept or reject anyone.

A week at His Mansion consists of a balance between individual and group therapy, small group class time, worship, and physical labor. We are a working farm and grow our own crops and raise our own animals to help support the ministries needs. In general, the week consists of three days of work and two days of class, leaving the weekends for rest and relaxation. However, being a working farming where both animals and people need to eat, designated class days as well as weekends require some work and responsibility. (More information is available on the internet at www.hismansion.com)

Cost:

His Mansion Ministries is a faith based program. No fees are assessed for the services rendered. However, the stay at His Mansion is not cost free. Someone is praying and paying! It is expected that applicants accepted at

Program Information and Expectations

His Mansion Ministries

Deering, NH 03244

(603-464-5555) www.hismansion.com

His Mansion will have a sponsor who will be the contact person throughout the student's stay. (See the "Sponsor Commitment Form" for more information)

However, no one is turned away for lack of funds. If finding a sponsor is a problem, let us know and we will explore the possible options with you.

Admission:

You must complete the "Resident Application" and mail it to His Mansion. After 7-10 days, call us inquiring about the status of the application and to schedule an interview. Also during this time an interview date will be set up with the applicant. In person interviews are preferred, however if distance is a problem, we will interview you over the phone.

After the interview, the applicant is instructed to call back in 1-2 days to see if she or he was accepted. If accepted and at the applicant's request, she or he will be placed on a waiting list and asked to call in once a week to check in.

Finally, when we have an opening, the applicant will be notified of an intake date.

Expectations:

The following information and expectations is to help you understand the commitment you are about to make. More detailed *Resident Guidelines* will be provided at entry to the program.

What you can expect:

- An environment which allows you to focus on healing in a relationship with God.
- To be taken seriously as a person created in the image of God. Sincere, honest questions will receive a like response.
- Genuine love and care. God has given us a love for those who are struggling with issues and problems such as yours.
- Discipline and guidance.

What is expected of you:

- Sincerity: You must have a sincere desire to change in character and conduct.
- Honesty: Mutual trust is important. Complete honesty and openness is the goal as you begin to trust the process at His Mansion and the people placed in your life to help you.
- Humility: The proud person will struggle with the authority and structure of His Mansion – ultimately you will not finish the program if humility is not learned. A lack of humility prevents teachability.
- Obedience: We do not ask for mindless obedience; however compliance to the guidelines and the authority structure is essential for us to help you. (See the "Resident Guidelines")
- Commitment: You must arrive with the goal of completing the first 30 days of Induction. At the end of that time, you will be asked to commit to the 12 month program if we believe you are ready and we are able to help. Remaining in the program requires a continued commitment to the program, personal change in character and conduct, and a willingness to continue on the path of healing identified by the staff.
- Diligence: You must demonstrate a willingness and growing ability to follow the rules and satisfactorily complete homework, journaling, and work duties with a positive and teachable attitude.

Program Information and Expectations

His Mansion Ministries

Deering, NH 03244

(603-464-5555) www.hismansion.com

For Your Consideration:

Some people find that this is a difficult program – and it is. This is intended! Understand that you will...

- Be supervised and accountable to the staff. Some might be younger and less experienced in some ways than you.
- Living arrangements are in a dormitory setting – privacy and personal space is limited.
- The schedule is structured and free time is limited.
- This is a work program! You will be required to work to provide for yourself and others.
- This is a religious program, Explicitly Christian. (See our “Statement of Faith”) Expect your thoughts and beliefs to be challenged. Expect that you *will* be changed in the process! (We believe for the better.)
 - Your words and behavior will be scrutinized and challenged if it does not exhibit the character and conduct of a follower of Christ.

Boundaries and Disciple

- *Behavior not tolerated:*
 - Smoking, abuse of substances or drugs.
 - Talking boastfully of your past sin: sexually explicit or suggestive talk; vulgar language; complaining or unconstructive criticism; sarcasm, taunting, ridicule, and joking at the expense of others, gossip, abusive language
 - Stealing from the ministry or any other person.
 - Destroying of ministry or another’s property
 - Violent or hateful talk or behavior (fighting, intimidation, or threats)
 - An argumentative attitude or behavior
 - Antagonistic behavior towards others
- *Music:* Certain types of “Christian” music are allowed. Generally, music that is understandable, positive and uplifting in nature is considered. All music is approved by the staff for use on the hill.
- *Reading material:* All reading material is approved for use by staff. Generally, material that does not affirm or glorify sinful behavior, negative thoughts and attitudes, the occult, other religions, or new age thinking, is allowed.
- *Religious:* Promoting other religions by any means is not allowed
- *Personal contact:* Inappropriate physical contact between people of the same or opposite sex is not allowed.
- *Relationships:* Developing romantic relationships with any other resident or staff person is not allowed. Friendships with the same gender are encouraged. Limited casual relating with the opposite sex is monitored.
- *Dress code and appearance:* (more detailed information will be given in the Resident Guidelines)
 - Clothing or jewelry that identifies with your unhealthy past or sinful lifestyle is restricted. You will be asked to wear cloths to properly and modestly cover your body.
 - Piercing or body art is restricted: Women can only have ear piercing exposed. Men can not have any exposed piercing.
 - Personal hygiene: cleanliness and neatness is required.
- It is expected that you will be diligent and responsible in fulfilling the program requirements as to class assignments, journaling, reading, Bible study, and church services, etc.
- It is required that you be on-time to all activities that make up the daily schedule.

Program Information and Expectations

His Mansion Ministries
Deering, NH 03244
(603-464-5555) www.hismansion.com

Discipline and correction:

Consequences to improper attitudes or behavior are given as a result of violating the guidelines, will be given in the form of additional work, homework, or revoking of privileges.

Circumstances that might lead to a Resident leaving the program:

You will be asked to leave if...

- Medical issues arise and become a serious obstacle to normal participation in the program.
- Your emotional, psychological, or spiritual needs turn out to be beyond the ability or existing expertise of the program or staff.
- There are significant omissions or falsifications of information on your application or in the interview process.
- Attempting to smuggle in or use tobacco, drugs, pornography, weapons, or anything else deemed to be a threat to yourself or others into the community.
- Violence, or treats of violence, taunting to provoke violence, or creation of an atmosphere or intimidation is engaged.
- A pattern of inappropriate relating with members of the same or opposite sex or pursuing a romantic relationships with another resident or staff person.
- A pattern of lying and deception
- A pattern of abusive language
- An influence on others that is destructive or demoralizing

Reentry to the program is possible in some cases. This will depend on the reason for dismissal and the dismissed resident's attitude, thinking, and behavior.

Outside Contact:

Contact with the outside world is limited while you are in the program. Any off campus activity is "covered" by a staff person or a person that the ministry can trust.

- *Phone calls* are limited to "safe" people and for a certain amount of time based on the phase of the program you are in. Calls will be monitored.
- *Mail* is limited to safe and supportive people.
- *Romantic* relationships outside of marriage are asked to be terminated while you are in the program
- *Visits* are limited during your time in the program. Generally, visits with trustworthy people or staff are granted depending on the phase of the program.

Miscellaneous:

- All belongings and the attire you arrive in will be searched upon arrival. We reserve the right to search you or your belongings upon departure.
- You can not have your personal car or any other mode of transportation on the hill.
- Personal electronic devices of any kind are not allowed. (Special needs or circumstances must be approved prior to your arrival)

Program Information and Expectations

His Mansion Ministries

Deering, NH 03244

(603-464-5555) www.hismansion.com

PROGRAM WORK REQUIREMENTS

A significant part of each resident's experience at His Mansion is contributing to our life together in a practical and meaningful way. This involves participating in the daily work that is required to keep a small agricultural community going.

To be accepted into the program, you *must* be willing and able to do the various work assignments that are a part of our daily and seasonal schedule. Appropriate training is given for each job.

Out of shape workers are expected to fully participate to the best of their ability, improving their physical conditioning on the job. If any applicant has any back problems, knee problems, heart problem and/or restrictions on lifting and work they will not be considered for entry into the program. The typical tasks are listed below.

Men's work program

Physical work approximately 30 hours per week

Work outdoors in all weather conditions, year round. Guys are expected to work out in snow and cold weather. (Temperatures of 10 degrees or lower at times and snow amounts could be very high during the winter.)

This is an agriculture based work program. Typical tasks include:

- **Logging:** lifting, splitting, stacking fire (cord) wood, and or moving heavy logs that weigh 500 plus pounds. A man is expected to pull his own weight, team work is a must.
- **Gardening:** Standing all day during garden work – regular use of shovels, rakes, hoes lots of bending and lifting.
- **Animal care:** daily feeding, watering and stall cleaning, and butchering (no one is forced to help butchering)
- **Property maintenance:** snow shoveling, raking, cutting and trimming of lawns

Women's program

Physical work for approximately 30 hours per week, both indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions

Typical tasks include:

- **Housekeeping:** vacuuming, sweeping, window cleaning, bathroom cleaning, and car washing.
- **Laundry:** Running washers and dryers, sorting and folding cloths (women's and men's)
- **Kitchen Duty:** food preparation and preservation(canning), cooking, and dishwashing
- **Gardening:** Standing all day during garden work – regular use of shovels, rakes, hoes lots of bending and lifting.
- **Logging:** moving and stacking firewood
- **Property maintenance:** snow shoveling, and raking

Program Information and Expectations

His Mansion Ministries

Deering, NH 03244

(603-464-5555) www.hismansion.com

What Residents Can Bring

You must bring....

- Government Issue Photo ID: (Driver's License, State ID, Passport, etc.)
- Clothes to work in: You'll want clothes that are in relatively good condition and comfortable but that you don't mind getting dirty. Rain gear (jacket and pants) is required for the men and is recommended for the women.
- Clothes for leisure time: Shorts, jeans, sweat suits and T-shirts are okay. Your clothes should be modest (loose fitting) and in good taste. Do not bring clothing items with logos or messages that promote anything to do with alcohol, drugs, sex, secular music or violence.
- Clothes for recreation: Swimsuits that are modest (one-piece suits, ladies). You'll also need clothes to play sports in, including tennis shoes.
- Clothes for church: Dresses or dress pants for the women, and dress pants and a shirt with a collar for the men. Shoes that are in good condition.
- Clothes for winter: New England winters get cold and you may be working outside. Winter coats and hats are required. Also bring gloves, thick socks and heavy shoes or boots.
- Toiletries: The usual things--shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrush, deodorant, comb or brush, shaving cream, disposable or electric razors, soap and a soap case. Bring at least one month's supply.
- Educational supplies: You'll need study supplies, including a three-ring binder with loose leaf paper, pens and pencils, three spiral-bound notebooks, and a Bible.
- Miscellaneous: A watch; stationary and envelopes if you plan to send letters; a calling card, if you plan to make phone calls.
- Prescription medication: bring at least a 30-day supply. Bring your social security card and insurance information if you have either
- Finances (see *Sponsor Form*).

You have the option of bringing...

- CDs or tapes of Christian, classical or mellow instrumental music. *All* music is subject to the approval of the His Mansion staff once you are on site.
- Subject to staff approval, you may have up to six books at a time but be aware that we have strict standards concerning authorship and subject content. (Non-Christian magazines are not permitted.)
- Beverages: tea, instant coffee and **sugar-free** hot cocoa or juice mix. All coffee must be **decaf**.
- Powdered cream (like Coffee Mate) and sugar substitutes (like NutraSweet or Sweet 'N Low) for beverages. **No sugar products** are permitted.
- Limited amounts of some types of **candy**, like gummy bears, spice drops, caramels, licorice or hard candy; jars of nuts and limited amounts of chewing gum and cough drops are also permitted. Bring up to a one-month supply of candy or nuts. (Amounts are subject to staff discretion)
- Craft projects and sporting equipment (baseball and glove, Frisbee, etc.)
- Musical instruments: acoustic guitar, other musical instruments may be approved--please ask before coming.
- Alarm clock (not a clock radio); rubber boots; laundry; small clip-on reading light.

You cannot bring...

- Radios, computer games, TV's, tape/CD players, bicycles or any appliances
- Lighters, matches, straight razors, knives or weapons of any kind

Remember...space is limited so only bring things you need and will use. If you're not sure if you would be allowed to have a particular item here, call us for approval. You may be asked to ship items back home if you come with too much. You can also have things sent to you here once you arrive. If you are in need of clothing, we have a large stock of donated clothing available to you.