



FREEZING NIGHTS

Code of Conduct

Volunteers in the Freezing Nights Ministry understand that their purpose is to provide an emotionally and spiritually safe environment for guests seeking emergency shelter. Guests must be given the opportunity to address their own needs, feel secure, and experience healing without the personal needs of volunteers complicating the ministry. The following points describe basic expectations of Freezing Nights Volunteers:

Personal Practice

1. ___ Freezing Nights Volunteers (FNV) may not use drugs or alcohol at any hosting church or on church property.
2. ___ FNV are expected to be respectful to both volunteers and guests. This means no offensive, discriminatory, or degrading language or behavior.
3. ___ FNV must wear appropriate clothing. This means clothing that is not sexually revealing, is not offensive to other volunteers or guests, and is not a civil or military service uniform (uniforms which suggest power and authority derived from a separate entity).

Volunteer-Guest Practice

4. ___ FNV may not buy items from or sell items to guests.
5. ___ FNV may not provide tobacco products, prescription drugs, or money to guests. (If there is a question about providing money for any reason, FNV must consult the site coordinator.)
6. ___ FNV may not have a dual relationship with guests. This includes business relationships (so that guests are not exploited or

manipulated by volunteers), landlord-tenant relationships (meaning that guests do not pay FNV for a room, apartment, etc.), romantic relationships (so that the personal desires or agendas of FNV do not undermine the ministry), and any other relationship that compromises the focus and purpose of Freezing Nights.

7. ___ FNV may not use threatening language or behavior to elicit change from guests. Behavior modification must be respectful.

Program Practice

8. ___ Conversations at hosting churches regarding operating procedures or guests must happen away from the larger group of guests to protect privacy.
9. ___ FNV must respect confidentiality of guests. This means that identifying and personal information about guests must be kept within the volunteer group and only given as needed to service agencies on behalf of the guests.
10. ___ FNV respect that this is a volunteer ecumenical community ministry and may not use the ministry to pressure guests to attend their specific churches.

In order to volunteer with Freezing Nights, I will comply with this Code of Conduct. My signature indicates that I understand what is expected of me and is my commitment to taking responsibility for myself as I work with other volunteers to serve Freezing Nights guests. If my behavior contradicts the above responsibilities, I understand that I may be asked to withdraw from the ministry. If I have any questions pertaining to this Code of Conduct, or in general about Freezing Nights, I will contact a church coordinator.

Signed _____ Printed _____

Date _____