

CORNERSTONE RESIDENT GUIDEBOOK



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The Cornerstone is a college ministry of Grace Community Church of
Arlington, TX

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Welcome to the Cornerstone!

I am so glad you have chosen to join the community of men who, since the early 1980's, have chosen to live in community with one another for the purpose of growing in their faith in Jesus Christ and fulfilling His mission. As a former resident of the Cornerstone, I believe strongly in the importance of the opportunity you have to grow here. I once arrived as a freshman, excited about the new freedoms I had as a student, yet wary of the world system that the step toward adulthood would immerse me in. It is my prayer that you will have the same life-changing experience at the Cornerstone that I did.

This booklet is designed to help you get the most out of your time here, whether that time is measured in semesters or years. My hope is that you will build deep and lasting friendships with other men, grow in the knowledge and practice of your faith and have a lot of fun at the Cornerstone. Please read the information in this guidebook thoroughly as you will be responsible to know it. As always if you have questions or feedback as to how we can do things better, my office door is always open to you. Thanks for being a part of our community!

Serving joyfully,
Loren Bieg

Cornerstone Director



The Cornerstone Mission

Our mission at the Cornerstone is to help young men find, know, and follow the Lord Jesus Christ through biblical community living, mutual respect, shared responsibility, and missional focus in a spirit of Christian brotherhood. The Cornerstone sees the whole person as spiritual and takes advantage of the community living environment to assist with growth in personal devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ, missional living, academic discipline, personal habits, financial responsibility, relational maturity, Christian conduct, and communication skills. We believe that the college years are an important transitional time between the structure of home life under the protection and guidance of parents, and adulthood. Statistically, this is when the greatest number of believers leave the church as values and lifestyle choices are challenged in the marketplace of ideas on the college campus. The Cornerstone is a place where that transition can take place in a context of Christian encouragement.

The Cornerstone operates under the leadership and financial support of Grace Community Church of Arlington, Texas. Besides its residential discipleship program, the Cornerstone is also a base of operations for outreach to UTA campus and the home of the college ministry of Grace Community Church. To learn more about the ministries based at the Cornerstone and about Grace Community Church, go to www.utaCornerstone.com and www.gracearlington.com.

What is The Cornerstone?

The Cornerstone is a historic house, located on the north border of the University of Texas at Arlington campus in Arlington, TX. The house has two stories, with five bedrooms upstairs and a kitchen, common area, and two offices downstairs. The house also has a plantation-style wrap-around porch on the south and east sides. The Cornerstone is owned and operated by Grace Community Church of Arlington, TX, whose history is intertwined as our senior pastor Gary Hutchison was the college minister at another church in Arlington when that church ran the

Cornerstone as its college ministry in the early 1980's, resulting in many relationships that formed the core of Grace's planting team in 1987. Over the years, the house became less of a college ministry and more of a ministry intern residence hall. The Cornerstone came available in 2002 when that church changed locations and in answer to a prayer and a dream of Gary's, Grace Community Church purchased the house and reopened it as a campus ministry to UTA, TCC and other college campuses in the area. Now it serves as the home for weekly worship, bible study, small groups, outreach, and the residence program that is the focus of this guidebook.

Having the Best Cornerstone Experience

Being a Cornerstone resident has been a spiritually forming experience for many guys over the years. But in order to have the best experience, residents must make an investment. While we do provide housing for low rent, anyone who thinks of the Stone only as a place to live cheaply will miss a great opportunity that will likely never come again in their lifetime. We encourage all residents to come to the Cornerstone with a desire to grow spiritually. Plan to live openly and be intentional in making new friendships. Even though we live in proximity to one another here, it is still possible to isolate by being up at hours that others aren't or choosing to be in your room when other residents are in the house. Certain kinds of activities such as TV, video games, online gaming, and similar activities have a tendency to use time that could be invested in others' lives. These things have their place when enjoyed as part of a balanced life. But, residents are encouraged to practice moderation and spend as much time in relationship with Jesus and others while living at the Cornerstone as possible. The various activities residents participate in are designed to encourage spiritual growth. But, our hope is that each resident will come understanding what God's purpose is for their time at the Stone. Without this understanding, the activities themselves, like anything, can become just another religious practice. So, come with a high expectation, come prayerfully, and come committed to invest in the opportunity of living at the Cornerstone. We are glad you are here!

Staff

Director

The Cornerstone director is a full-time, pastoral staff member of Grace Community Church who provides spiritual leadership and overall direction for the Cornerstone, its leaders, residents, programs, operations, and facility management. The director provides guidance for the house manager in fulfilling his responsibilities and coordinates the integration of the Cornerstone residential discipleship program with the other college ministries that are based at the Cornerstone. He also builds and maintains relationships with other college campus ministry leaders to partner in the common mission of Christ to UTA and other nearby college campuses. The Cornerstone director reports to the senior leadership of Grace Community Church of Arlington, TX.

House Manager

The Cornerstone House Manager is a volunteer leader who assists the director and residents by encouraging residents in their faith, modeling biblical living and responsible residency, checking residents in and out of their rooms, organizing and leading semester work days, collecting rent, enforcing house policies, scheduling chores and house breakfasts, making room assignments, holding house meetings, carrying out minor repairs on the house when necessary, stocking house supplies, and communicating regularly with the director about the status of these items. The House Manager is required to maintain a GPA of 2.5 or better if a student, and works a maximum of 10 hours per week in exchange for a rent discount.

Life Group Leader

A life group leader is a volunteer resident who leads other residents in a small group designed to encourage spiritual growth and missional living. This leader meets once per week with their Life Group, meets one on one regularly with residents in his Life Group for encouragement, models spiritual maturity, complies with house policies, and maintains a GPA of 2.5 or better if a student. Life groups at the Cornerstone study the

Bible, pray, and share deeply with one another. Two resident Life Groups meet at the Cornerstone.

Contact Information

Director - Loren Bieg	
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<i>Email</i>	Loren.Bieg@gracearlington.com
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Other Contact Information	
<i>House Phone</i>	817.460.8759
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Director's Office Hours

Director's office hours are part-time because of other pastoral responsibilities and activities. Typically they are: M 3-6; T 9-5; W 1-5; TH 9-5. The director is available by cell phone if needed. The vast majority of house-related concerns should be handled through the house manager.

Residence Contract Information

Cornerstone House Covenant

Each resident is required to sign a house covenant that commits to several things: 1) pursuit of spiritual growth as a follower of Jesus Christ through participation in the Cornerstone discipleship program – Lifeline, a Life group, house meetings, weekly church attendance; 2) fulfillment of house duties – chores, work day, basic Christian conduct; and 3) keeping of financial and academic requirements – rent and a GPA of 2.5 or better. The house covenant is a statement of each resident's desire to make the most out of their time at the Cornerstone.

Rent Payment Schedule

Rent is \$225 and is due monthly on the 1st day of the month. There is a grace period of 5 days, on the 6th a \$25.00 late fee will

be added to the rent amount. On the 15th, the director will be notified and a payment plan will be established with the resident. Eviction may result if rent remains unpaid past the first of the following month with no payment plan in place.

First month's rent will be prorated for residents who move in after the first of the month and is due on the move-in date. Last month's rent will be prorated for residents who move out before the last day of the month. Prorating will be figured based upon the number of days in the month the resident moves out – i.e. \$225/28 per day for February (non-leap-year), \$225/31 per day for July, etc.

Room Assignments

Rooms will be assigned by the house manager with the director's input when necessary. Requests for roommates or other room preferences should be made to the House Manager prior to moving in. Because of our belief in the importance of community living, we will try to avoid assigning residents their own rooms, even if empty rooms are available. Our observation over time has been that guys in their own rooms tend to start drawing back from community in the house. Changing rooms is permissible with the house manager and director's approval. We will try to avoid using roommate changes as a way to avoid relational challenges.

Check In Procedures

New residents should schedule a time with the house manager to check in. Prior to moving in, resident will walk the room with the house manager and complete the Check-In Inventory Sheet, recording any damage or wear to room or furnishings. After moving in, the new resident will meet with the house manager for orientation.

Deposit

A deposit of \$100 is required at check-in. The deposit is refunded by mail up to two weeks after resident check-out when all the following conditions are met:

- Resident's room passes inspection
- Rent is paid in full through check-out date

- Any house items broken by resident are paid for
- All house keys are returned

House Keys and Locking the House

A room key and house key will be issued to each resident at check-in. These must be returned before the resident deposit is refunded. Resident rooms should be locked at all times when the resident is not in the house. Thefts have occurred at the house during daytime hours when the house is unoccupied. Resident belongings should be locked in their rooms.

The house is to be locked every night no later than 12:00 AM. The house manager may lock the house at 11:00 PM *or earlier* at his discretion. Occasionally, residents will stay the night elsewhere. It is not the house manager's responsibility to know the whereabouts of each resident each night. Residents are required to carry a house key with them at all times so as not to wake the house manager or other residents to let them in the house after hours.

Room Inspection

Resident rooms will be inspected once per semester (fall, spring, and summer) and right before check out. Residents will complete and sign a Room Inspection Check List and submit to the house manager's mailbox by the inspection date. The house manager will conduct the inspection and will either pass the room or note any action items necessary to bring the room up to passing. Resident must complete action items within two days, unless an extension is given by the house manager, and resubmit the checklist.

Meetings, Workdays, and Outreach

House Breakfast – On Wednesday mornings, breakfast is on the house! Breakfast will be prepared by two residents per week on a rotating schedule set by the house manager. Food is paid for by the Cornerstone, with a \$20 limit. Cooks shop together and prepare the meal to eat by 6:54 AM. No donuts or cold cereal are allowed - pancakes, sausage, eggs, fruit, bacon, etc. are the order of the day. Attendance is required, but who doesn't want a

free meal! The goal of this time is to have at least one meal together per week to talk, laugh, and catch up.

House Meetings – Occasional house meetings focused primarily on new communication or issues within the house will be scheduled by the house manager. House meetings are mandatory, typically last 30 minutes to an hour, and will be scheduled at a time that is as convenient as possible for all residents.

One-on-Ones – Each resident will have at least one informal meeting with the director each semester called a one-on-one. The director will be looking for personal feedback on the resident's experience in the house, how they are doing spiritually, emotionally, and, academically, and asking if there is anything he or the house manager can do better to improve what we do at the Cornerstone.

House Workdays – Once per semester (fall, spring, and summer) the house manager will schedule a house work day for four to six hours on a Saturday. As part of our community care for the house, participation is required for all residents. If a scheduling conflict occurs that prevents a resident from participating, an alternate time may be scheduled with the house manager.

Outreach – Each resident will give 12 hours to outreach of some kind each semester. This can consist of a life group outreach project, the Cornerstone barbecue, a Mexico Trip, The Cornerstone Coffeehouse, The UTA Big Howdy, personal evangelism, Mission Arlington, or other director-approved activity. Hours should be recorded on the Ministry Hours Worksheet and submitted to the house manager at the end of the semester.

Check Out Procedures

When checking out, a resident should:

- Schedule a time with the house manager for check out

- Remove all belongings from the room, bathroom, and upstairs hallway and all food from the cabinets, refrigerator and freezer
- Thoroughly clean the room and cabinet space, and complete a room clean-up checklist form
- Remove trash to the outside trash cans
- Flip mattress
- Meet the house manager with the clean up checklist for sign off. House manager will inspect the room and note any action items necessary on the clean up form. Resident will complete action items and resubmit.
- House manager will also inspect the room with the Check-In inventory Sheet to determine any damages to the room that may result in a deposit deduction.
- Return room and house keys to house manager.
- Stay in touch!

The deposit will be mailed to a former resident up to two weeks after check out. Failure to complete cleaning action items before the resident leaves the house may result in a \$25 cleaning fee to be taken from the deposit. Payment for damages to the house or furniture will be deducted from the deposit if necessary. The deposit will not be returned until all house keys are returned.

Room charges

Residents will be charged for any damages or missing items in their room, or if cleaning is not completed when the resident has moved out. At check-in and check-out residents should fill out the Room Check-In Sheet carefully with the house manager and sign, making sure that any damage to the room is noted. Normal wear and tear is permitted, such as push pin holes, double stick tape, dings on the door frame, minor paint damage, etc. Writing or painting on the walls, doors, or trim is not allowed.

Chores

One of the ways that residents live in community is to share responsibility for some aspects of the care of the house as a way of developing mutual respect and acquiring life skills for the future. Resident chores are bathroom and kitchen clean up, trash removal, and upstairs hallway cleaning. Details of these

responsibilities can be found on the chore checklists, available from the house manager. The house manager will assign chores to residents using a schedule posted in the upstairs hall. In addition, all residents are responsible to help keep the parking lot and common areas of the house neat and free of food and personal belongings.

Cornerstone Basics

These are the basic things you need to know to get around the Cornerstone as a resident.

Cabinet and Refrigerator Space

Cabinet and refrigerator space will be assigned by the house manager at resident check-in. Resident should not store food in cabinets not assigned to them except on a temporary basis (such as summer when the house census is low) without express approval by the house manager. Residents must show respect for other's food by not eating it or allowing others to eat it without express permission from the owner of the food items. Storage of open food items is not allowed in cabinets as they attract pests. The cabinets and refrigerators will be monitored occasionally by the house manager who may throw away expired or spoiled food at his discretion. The cabinet above the trashcan is a community cabinet for food that is available for anyone, including guests.

White Board Communications

The whiteboard is primarily for communication from the house manager to residents regarding house business. Occasionally there is a need to communicate something to all other residents, in which case a *signed* note may be written by a resident. Such notes should be limited to communication that affects the entire house. Writing personal notes or calling out another resident publicly through use of the white board is not allowed.

Roommate Bill Of Rights

Basic rights of a roommate include the right to:

1. *Study, free from undue interference (noise, stereo, guests, etc.), in one's room.*

2. *Sleep without undue disturbance from noise, guests, , roommates, etc.*
3. *Live in a moral and spiritually friendly environment, free from inappropriate material, speech, or behavior.*
4. *Expect that roommates will respect each others' personal belongings. When borrowing or using others' belongings, ask their permission first and get approval.*
5. *Live in a clean environment.*
6. *Free access to one's room and facilities without pressure from roommates to vacate.*
7. *Expect that roommates will respect each others' personal privacy.*
8. *Host guests at agreed upon times and with the expectation that guests are to respect the rights of the host, roommate(s), and other house residents. See the guest policy for specifics.*
9. *Expect reasonable cooperation in the use of house amenities.*
10. *Expect any and all disagreements to be discussed in an atmosphere of openness and mutual respect.*

Adapted from the UTA Residence Hall Guide 2006-2007

House Hours

The Cornerstone is open to guests during the day and evening. One hour before the house is closed to guests will be a quiet hour. During quiet hour, guests must be accompanied by a resident and must be respectful of residents sleep and study time by engaging in quiet activities – i.e. no loud movies, card games, music, laughing, etc. The Cornerstone opens to guests at 8:00 AM seven days per week, earlier for special events or church pickup. Sunday through Thursday, quiet hour begins at 11:00 and the house closes at midnight. Friday and Saturday quiet hour begins at midnight and the house closes at 1:00 AM.

Laundry

The Laundry facilities are available for resident use. With up to nine guys using the same washer and dryer, the laundry room can be very busy. We ask residents to avoid leaving laundry unattended in the washer or dryer so the next resident cannot

use it. Occasionally, laundry will be forgotten or residents will not hear the buzzer in another part of the house. Following is the system for doing laundry:

1. Bring your laundry down in a laundry basket clearly labeled with your name and leave the basket on top of the washer while your clothes are washing. When the wash is complete, move your clothes to the dryer and move the basket to the floor in front of the dryer.
2. If the washer or dryer are unattended, but full of another resident's clothes when you go to use them, first check to see if the resident is in the house and ask if they are finished. If they are not available, remove the clothes and put them in the resident's basket and proceed with using the washer or dryer.

House Showers

Three house showers are available for residents. There are two showers upstairs and one downstairs. Residents in the two south bedrooms share the shower in the Jack and Jill bathroom between them. The other three bedrooms share the bathroom in the hallway. Any resident may use shower in the downstairs hallway bathroom. Residents should be mindful of the possibility of male and female guests being in the common areas when they exit the downstairs bathroom. Both pants/shorts and shirt must be worn – no towels or shirtless. The downstairs bathroom door should be left open after using the shower to help with ventilation. Guest use of the downstairs shower is permissible on an occasional basis by male guests. Guests must follow house guidelines in using the downstairs shower and respect residents' priority access to it. So, please prearrange guest shower use with the house manager.

Guest Guidelines

Guests are most welcome at the Cornerstone! Part of our mission is to create a place where anyone can come, hang out, and connect with Jesus and his people through friendship and an open atmosphere. We strive to balance that with the realities of creating the best space for our residents. In order to maintain an environment that is conducive to faith, fun, and academics,

guests are asked to comply with all house rules and to be attentive to the following:

- Respect residents' mail
- Take personal belongings home
- Guests must be attended by a resident during quiet hours
- Please wash any dishes used or place them in the dishwasher if dishwasher sign is set to dirty
- Do not adjust thermostat
- Be careful what you leave in your car when parked in the parking lot as thefts have occurred
- Respect house parking
- Have fun, but be smart in caring for the house furniture, P.A., and other furnishings and amenities at the Cornerstone. They need to last a long time!
- Only appropriate content is allowed on the TV, house computers, and any guest-owned laptops while they are in the house or on the porch – no illegal, profane, violent, or sexual content (graphic or innuendo) is allowed. This applies to speech and music as well.
- Guests may not sleep downstairs
- Female guests are welcome anywhere downstairs or on the porch, but are not allowed on the second floor under any circumstances unless prior approval is given by the house manager. Typical exceptions are move-in help, family visits, help with decorating rooms or the house for Christmas or ministry events.
- Please avoid inappropriate public displays of affection at the Cornerstone. The college years are the time for young men and women to be seeking their spouse, a process which we encourage under the Bible's standards for sexual purity. Affection that may be appropriate to a couple's commitment level can cause others to feel awkward or unwelcome when publicly expressed. Since the Cornerstone's mission is to create an open, inclusive, spiritually and relationally friendly environment, we ask that affection be kept to expressions appropriate in public (sitting together, hand holding, side-hugs).

Parking

The first two spaces in the parking lot as you enter from College Street are designated for staff. The next nine are for residents. The last three are for guests. Please help our guests not to occupy resident and staff parking spaces.

Mail

Mail is received daily in the mailbox on the front porch of the house. Whoever retrieves the day's mail should bring it to the residents' mailboxes upstairs and sort into the appropriate box. Former residents' mail should be sorted into the box marked accordingly.

Air Conditioning and Heat

In an old house, the rooms often heat and cool differently. Due to electrical costs, we ask that residents do not lower the A/C below 77° or raise the heat above 68° on the upstairs or downstairs thermostats. Ceiling fans are installed in all rooms to help with temperature differences. Space heaters are a fire hazard in a house of this age and are not allowed. If there is a significant issue with temperature in a resident's room, please submit an incident report to help us address it and track any heating and cooling issues long-term.

Trash Pickup

Trash is picked up by the city of Arlington at the curb on Wednesday and Saturday of each week. Recyclables are picked up on Wednesday. Residents should empty bedroom trash in a liner in the outside trash cans.

Other Amenities

DirecTV – The house has DirecTV Total Choice Plus with TiVo and parental controls. Cornerstone residents may record programs using TiVo. Please use good judgment in choosing appropriate content. In the case that something appropriate is locked out by parental controls, the house manager or director can bypass with a password. The password will not be given to residents.

WiFi – wireless internet is available throughout the house and on the porch. There is a password-secured access point in the front office and a non-secured access point in the director's office. WiFi is freely available to residents and guests. Ethernet ports are also available in the bedrooms.

Guest computers – There are two guest computers downstairs with limited user accounts available to guests for internet and email. These computers do not have print capability and may not be used to view or download sexual, violent, illegal or otherwise inappropriate content.

Resident computer and printer – There is one computer upstairs with a printer that is designated for resident use only. Each resident will have his own limited use account for document storage, etc. Software may not be installed on any of these computers, except by house manager or director approval. The Cornerstone and its management are not responsible for file or data loss or corruption (which occurs about once per year). We recommend the use of a flash drive to back up your files. This computer may not be used to download sexual, violent, illegal or otherwise inappropriate content. The house printer is for academic and personal use, but should not be used to print photographs or other ink-intensive color documents. The house manager will stock ink cartridges, but is not responsible for ink outages or printer failures during last-minute school deadlines. Please make sure there is enough ink to print your papers, reports, projects, etc. in the time you need should a failure or outage occur.

Storage Shed – The storage shed is primarily for house and ministry supplies. A minimal amount of space is available in the shed for storage of tools or other outdoor equipment with house manager approval. During the school year, the Cornerstone Barbecue team will be moving tables and other equipment in and out of the shed weekly. Resident items stored in the shed should not block or impede volunteers' access to needed items.

Helping the House Manager

It would be ideal if everyone did their part conscientiously all the time. But, in reality we don't always. Sometimes we forget, and sometimes we don't consider others when we make decisions with our time. Part of the house manager's job is to help residents comply with the guidelines of the house and their commitment to live by the house covenant. Since the house manager is himself a resident, this can be a tiring and frustrating job if residents make it so.

There are a few things in the Cornerstone that always lead to frustration when they are not done properly and on time - frustration for other residents who are doing their part, and frustration for the house manager when he has to remind someone repeatedly to follow through on things they have committed to. Chores, rent, house meetings, work day, etc. are all part of the way we do life together at the Cornerstone. The house manager coordinates resident participation in those things and helps them run smoothly. We ask every resident to make a good conscience effort to fulfill the house covenant while living here. And, remember to pray for the house manager and thank him once in a while for all he does to make the Cornerstone the best it can be!

Facility

Room and Building Maintenance

House maintenance and minor repairs are conducted and/or coordinated by the house manager, under supervision of the Director, the facility staff of Grace Community Church, and contract help when necessary. Should there be a need for repairs to a room or other part of the house, such as minor damage due to a storm, or issues with electrical wiring, heating, A/C, appliances, satellite TV, internet, house phone, broken furnishings, pests, landscaping, or anything else please notify the house manager using the incident report forms available by the upstairs mailboxes.

House Cleaning

The cleaning staff of Grace Community Church cleans the offices, downstairs bathroom, kitchen, and common area at the Cornerstone weekly. The time of cleaning varies and will be communicated via the house manager. Residents are responsible for cleaning the stairs, upstairs bathrooms, upstairs hallway, and their own rooms. Resident food items and personal belongings that are left out downstairs when the cleaning crew is working may be moved or inadvertently thrown away (food items), or cleaning may be impeded by them. The Cornerstone is not responsible for food left out during cleaning.

Policies

Roommate/Housemate Relationships

Part of living with others is appreciating and living with differences in temperament, personality, culture, values, preferences, and personal habits. As a result of these differences, conflict is bound to occur. As Christians, we do not consider the existence of conflict a failure. The only failure is when we cannot resolve the conflict and walk in unity. At the Cornerstone we practice the steps to reconciliation given us in Matthew 18:15-17.

1. Approach a brother who has offended you and privately, respectfully, honestly describe the offense, giving him the opportunity to respond appropriately with either a) clarification that removes the offense, or b) humility and a request for forgiveness, and/or c) description of an offense he may be carrying which led to the action he took. In the case of c), both brothers have the opportunity to forgive one another. In all cases, a good conscience effort to understand and change offending behavior should be agreed upon.
2. If the brother does not respond or there is a dispute as to the validity of the offense, invite another brother (friend, resident, house manager, or director) to assist in resolving the conflict.
3. If the issue is a sin issue, and the brother does not respond appropriately to step one or two, the "church"

will approach him. The church may be our Cornerstone community or the senior leadership of Grace Community Church or the church the brother attends. If he responds, we have won him back. If not, Jesus told us to treat him as a “sinner”, meaning we limit our contact to redemptive contact, so as not to continue as if nothing is wrong.

Personal Property

Personal belongings should be secured in residents’ rooms and locked up at all times, especially when the resident is not in the house. The Cornerstone is open to visitors throughout the day and is at times open and unattended. Personal belongings of residents are not covered under any insurance policy carried by the Cornerstone or Grace Community Church of Arlington, TX. We recommend renters insurance if a resident is concerned about theft while living at the Cornerstone.

House Guests

Guests are always welcome in the Cornerstone. Part of our mission is to have a safe, fun, and friendly environment in which students feel comfortable hanging out together. It is very rare that a guest creates a problem. Residents are encouraged to help guests follow the guidelines of the house to ensure that the environment remains in accordance with our mission. Problem guests should be reported to the House Manager.

After quiet hours, guests must be accompanied by a resident. At midnight, guests must leave the house.

Miscellaneous

- Pets are not allowed in the Cornerstone
- The Cornerstone is a smoke-free environment
- Decorations are encouraged, but use only thumb tacks or push-pins to attach things to the walls. No nails or permanent fasteners, painting or writing on the walls or furniture, or flammable decorations.
- Please do not engage in copyright infringement at the Cornerstone. Peer-to-peer file sharing software is prohibited from house computers.

- No material of a sexual nature may be viewed or stored on a house computer or residents’ personal computer.
- No profanity is allowed at the Cornerstone.
- Small plants are allowed in the bedrooms, as long as the plant is in a pot or other container that is completely drop free, the plant is free of insects, and resident’s roommate or other housemates are not allergic to the given plant. Table-top plants only. No floor pots, please.
- Due to the varying size of the bedrooms, residents are permitted a small television (25” or less) or refrigerator (4.3 cubic feet max), if bedroom space permits and roommate agrees. No additional furniture without express house manager approval is allowed.
- Only votive or tea light candles in a glass or other type of cup-shaped container whose rim is higher than the wick are permitted in bedrooms. Unattended candles are a significant fire hazard. Use good judgment when placing candles in bedrooms and always blow them out when leaving the bedroom.
- Cooking of any type, with the exception of a small coffee maker, is not permitted in bedrooms. Please use the kitchen for cooking.

House Discipline

If a resident misses their responsibilities (including lateness) three or more times, the director may schedule a meeting with the resident to help the resident get on track. The goal of the meeting will be encouragement and growth. A plan for improvement may be an outcome of that meeting.

There is some behavior that, for reasons of safety, honesty to our mission, and maintaining respect for legal authority, cannot be tolerated at the Cornerstone and will lead to discipline and possible eviction. These things are self-evident, but are listed here to avoid any potential ambiguity:

1. Possession or consumption of illegal drugs.
2. Fighting or abuse of any kind.
3. Failure to comply with a request made by the director or house manager in the course of enforcing the policies, guidelines, and operations of the house. This includes

any effort to mislead, deceive, or impede or failure to respect or cooperate with house staff.

4. Possession or use of fireworks, explosives, or chemicals that can be used or combined to be used as combustible substances. Items for use in the carrying out of ministry activities (such as lighter fluid, gas or charcoal for a cookout, etc.) are permissible, but must be stored in the shed. Combustible substances may not be stored in resident bedrooms under any circumstances.
5. Harassment of any type (verbal, hazing, damage to property, physical assault, or sexual).
6. Copying or distributing of house keys.
7. Unauthorized entry into house offices or storage rooms.
8. Possession of firearms or illegal weapons. We acknowledge that there are reasonable circumstances for the possession of legal firearms. But, due to the high sensitivity to possession of firearms on campus and our proximity to campus, firearms are not permitted in the house.
9. Because we have those under the legal drinking age living and ministering at the Cornerstone, alcoholic beverages may not be stored or consumed at the Cornerstone.
10. Any illegal activities not mentioned here.

Violations of these policies will be met with the following discipline process:

1. The resident will be confronted privately about the violation by the house manager and/or director.
2. Depending on the type and severity of the violation, a resolution path may be created, the resident may be required to leave the house, or parents and/or the authorities may be contacted.

Appealing Discipline

House discipline may be appealed to the Director's Supervisor, Tim Wright – Associate Pastor at Grace Community Church of Arlington at 817.860.7116.

Feedback and Suggestions

The house manager and director are always open to feedback and suggestions about how we can make things better at the Cornerstone. If you have ideas, please contact us!

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