

PARENT RULES

General

1. Honesty.
2. Empathy and sensitivity.
3. Confidentiality - WHAT YOU HEAR HERE, AND WHOM AND WHAT YOU SEE HERE, REMAINS HERE.
4. This book is for parent in the program, not to be used as information about the program for prospective parents.
5. No talking behind backs.
6. No vacation until child is on 5th phase. Parents may not miss Friday or Monday meetings to take vacations without their child.
13. If parents or guests come to an Open Meeting under the influence of alcohol or drugs, they will not be permitted to attend or enter the building and also run the risk of having their child terminated from the program.
14. No cameras, recorders, or writing during an Open Meeting.
15. Dress shall be sedate and respectful. No thongs, white T-shirts, muscle shirts, T-shirts with pictures or writing, see-through blouses, overalls, shorts, or low-cut dresses or blouses. Bras and shoes shall be worn.
16. No talking during Open Meeting.
17. When talking to your child over the microphone:

Open Meeting and Parent Raps

7. Attendance at all Open Meetings on Fridays is required by parents throughout the child's program.
8. Attendance at all Monday Night Parent Raps is required by parents. Parents must report to the group scheduled by Clinical Staff.
9. Unless there is a dire emergency, parents are required to arrive on time and spend the entire length of the Open Meetings and Parent Raps. Clinical Staff must be notified if you are to miss an Open Meeting or Rap, or come late or leave early. Absences are allowed only for work or illness.
10. Parents and guests must sign in at every Open Meeting. Each person signs his own name, including siblings and guests. Attendance is taken by the Rap Leaders on Monday nights.
11. Seating arrangements at Open Meetings are for security and fire reasons and at the discretion of Staff. Notify staff if you have a medical problem which requires special seating. Please remain in the room and seated during the Open Meeting. Restroom break only during break and if absolutely necessary.
12. No eye games with your child.
- A. Stand together as a family.
- B. Talk about your feelings.
- C. No lecturing.
- D. No reference to friends, pets, "want lists", news, gossip or progress reports.
- E. No sad or shocking personal news like a death or divorce, serious illness, etc., without prior staff permission.
- F. No talking to other children without prior staff permission.
18. No sibling shall attend an Open Meeting until they have been approved by staff and not before the client has been in the program twenty-one (21) days. Siblings should not accompany client's talk until third time talk has been earned. Sibling children too young to participate in the program and sit attentively should not attend.
19. On first phase, no other friends or family members will be allowed to attend a Friday Night Open Meeting. Refer to the Phase Rules to find out when approved relatives/friends can start coming to Open Meetings.
20. Parents wishing to bring a guest or relative to the Monday Night Parent Raps, must call 48 hours in advance to schedule an interview. Guest approval decisions will be available only after 5:00 pm on Fridays.

21. Requirements for becoming a "program parent" are as follows: approved guests or other family members that attend the necessary parent raps will be considered program parents, allowing them to govern a household and/or assist in other program parent responsibilities. Contact the Executive Directors to have them signed up for the parent raps.
21. First phase parents must leave within 15 minutes after an Open Meeting or Rap. No waiting in the parking lot to see your child.
22. Parents and siblings are requested to remain quiet outside the building following Open Meetings and Raps. We want to be good neighbors to those living around us who may want to go to bed early.
23. Please check for no-nos being returned from children on First Phase or on away from home when you come in for an Open Meeting or a Rap. (Check table in Yellow Room).
24. There will be no eating or drinking during an Open Meeting or a Rap.

Siblings

25. Siblings ten years old or older are to be interviewed before they can attend Open Meetings. All siblings must wait 21 days before attending an Open Meeting. An appointment is necessary for the interview and should be made between 14 and 21 days after the client has entered the program. They may attend Open Meetings only after staff approval has been made. Sibling approval decisions will be available only after 5 pm on Fridays.
26. Siblings are not allowed to run around inside or outside the building unsupervised and must report to their parents after the Open Meeting or Rap.
27. Sibling Raps are on Monday nights in conjunction with the Parent Raps. Siblings must be eight years old or older to attend. Alternative plans should be made for younger siblings.

28. Approved siblings 21 or older may attend the necessary Parent Raps to be considered a program parent, allowing them to govern the household and/or assist in other program parent responsibilities.

Safety, Health and Security

29. Acts of violence, sexual misconduct, criminal activity or possession of drugs will not be tolerated. If you observe or know of any such activity occurring, it should be reported immediately to Clinical Staff.
30. There will be no smoking by anyone at anytime in the building. Your child will not be permitted to smoke while in the program. Should you choose to smoke outside the building, please use the sand buckets to dispose of the butts.
31. All medication must be checked by Staff for approval, and will be kept at the program and dispensed here. Parents should hand it directly to Staff - it should not left in a suitcase nor given to a client to bring in.

Communication

32. Parents should state their name and their child's name when talking to or calling Staff.
33. Parents of children on First Phase or on an Away-From-Home will be notified if their child needs anything from home. Check the message board in the front hall on Fridays for a "Wants and Needs" list for your child.
34. During the first 30 days of treatment a weekly progress report from Staff will be posted on the parent's message board. DO NOT DISCUSS THESE REPORTS WITH YOUR CHILD.
35. Your child's peer counselor should contact you to schedule an Introduction to New Lifestyles rap. If you are not contacted within the first 14 days of admission, please contact your child's peer counselor to set up a time to meet with them.

36. No "playing off" on Staff members. Respect the chain of command. (i.e., don't ask a second Staff member about a rule because you don't like the interpretation given by the first). Serious questions or conflicting answers should be reported to the Program Director.
37. Tell Staff if there is an emergency in your family (death in the family, accident, illness, death of a pet, etc.). Staff will then decide if it is in your child's best interest to know. If so, when and/or how to tell them. Do not tell your child sad or shocking news without prior Staff permission, and never in Open Meeting.
38. On 2nd Phase, a client can make permission requests to go to the doctor or to go home if they live out of town. On 3rd Phase, they can make permission requests for school, shopping for school, work, job hunting, home, doctor, yard. Permission requests are the child's own responsibility and must be made in writing 72 hours in advance (unless there is an emergency) and turned into Staff. No permission request will be approved over the telephone.