

Principles

Three principles underlie the formation and operation of Oxford House Chapters and explain why individual Oxford Houses group together to start Chapters:

Oxford Houses share their experience, strength, and hope with each other.

The common welfare of Oxford House requires that all Oxford Houses follow the conditions of their charter.

Oxford House Chapters foster expansion of the number of Oxford Houses in order to provide safe, sober, supportive living environments for a greater number of individuals recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction.

Oxford House Traditions

- 1. Oxford House™ has as its primary goal the provision of housing and rehabilitative support for the alcoholic who wants to stop drinking or using and stay stopped.**
- 2. All Oxford Houses are run on a democratic basis. Our officers are but trusted servants serving continuous periods of no longer than six months in any one office.**
- 3. No Member of an Oxford House™ is ever asked to leave without cause – a dismissal vote by the membership because of drinking, drug using, or disruptive behavior.**
- 4. Oxford House™ is not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous, organizationally or financially, but Oxford House members realize that only active participation in Alcoholics Anonymous offers assurance of continued sobriety.**
- 5. Each Oxford House™ should be autonomous except in matters affecting other houses or Oxford House, Inc., as a whole.**
- 6. Each Oxford House™ should be financially self-supporting although financially secure houses may, with approval or encouragement of Oxford House, Inc., provide new or financially needy houses a loan for a term not to exceed one year.**
- 7. Oxford House™ should remain forever non-professional, although individual members may be encouraged to utilize outside professionals whenever such utilization is likely to enhance recovery from alcoholism.**
- 8. Propagation of the Oxford House, Inc. concept should always be conceived as public education rather than promotion. Principles should always be placed before personalities.**
- 9. Members who leave an Oxford House™ in good standing are encouraged to become associate members and offer friendship, support, and example, to newer members.**