

A FEW FACTS ABOUT THE OXFORD HOUSE PROGRAM

Oxford Houses are self-run, self-supported houses for individuals recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction. As of the end of 2014, there were 1,824 Oxford Houses throughout the United States [1,322 for men and 502 for women or women with children] with a total of 14,416 recovery beds.

A charter issued by OHI –the nonprofit national umbrella organization – governs each Oxford House and assures quality control by requiring each Oxford House group to:

- (1) Operate the house democratically following the Oxford House Manual[®];
- (2) Pay rent to a private landlord and pay all household expenses; and
- (3) Expel any House member who uses alcohol or illicit drugs.

Admission is by application to a particular Oxford House and requires acceptance by an 80% approval vote by the existing House members. Individual houses are grouped into mutually supportive chapters that monitor each other's charter compliance. There are no time limits on residency and relapse is considered the exception, not the rule.

The program is 40 years old. The 1988 federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act served as a catalyst for national expansion by encouraging small start-up loans to groups to rent ordinary residential housing. Expansion has also been fostered by relatively small state and foundation grants to OHI for outreach worker support in opening new Oxford Houses. For example, Washington State has provided funding for outreach support and created a loan fund in 1990. The Washington State loan fund has turned over more than ten times, resulting in the creation of an ongoing network of 250 Oxford Houses [2,086 beds].

Most residents come into an Oxford House after completing detoxification and treatment.

Individuals are encouraged to enter an Oxford House by their counselors, their parole officers, drug court personnel and members of 12-step programs. Many Oxford House residents [76%] have experienced jail time. Oxford House works closely with re-entry programs and drug courts.

The Oxford House[™] program is listed as a best practice on the federal government's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices [NREPP].

Since 1992 NIAAA and NIDA have sponsored numerous studies of Oxford House effectiveness. More than 165 peer-reviewed articles have been published in academic journals. In many ways, the study of Oxford House residents and alumni initiated the scientific study of recovery from alcoholism, drug addiction and co-occurring mental illness. One major DePaul study followed 897 residents and alumni from 219 Oxford House for over 2 years and found that only 13.5% relapsed.

The annual cost of establishing and maintaining an Oxford House recovery bed is far less than the cost of a traditional recovery bed.

The New York Times in September 2013 ran a series of stories about traditional halfway houses in New Jersey used in lieu of traditional incarceration at a subsidized cost of \$39,000 per bed per year. New Jersey now has 935 Oxford House recovery beds with an annual taxpayer cost of \$293 per bed per year – far less than 1% of subsidized cost for traditional halfway house beds and many times more effective – in 2014 more than 84% of Oxford House residents stayed clean and sober.

For more information:

Contact us at 301-587-2916 or visit the web at www.oxfordhouse.org

Good Houses in Good Neighborhoods



Oxford House – Invicta

Oxford House – Invicta (pictured at left) is an Oxford House for 10 women that was established in San Antonio, Texas November 1, 2013. It is one of 139 Oxford Houses in Texas; 28 started in 2013 and 36 started in 2014 making Texas the fastest growing Oxford House State in 2013 and 2014.

There are houses for men; houses for women; houses for women with children but no co-ed houses.

Creating an Effective National Recovery Network One House at a Time

National Oxford House Resident Profile¹

Number of Women's Houses:	502	Recovery Beds for Women:	3,867
Number of Houses For Men:	1,322	Recovery Beds for Men:	10,549
National Network of Houses:	1,824	Total Recovery Beds:	14,416
Number of States with Houses:	44	Cities with Oxford Houses:	482
Average Age	36.8	Percent Veterans	18%
Average Educational Level	12.2 yrs.	Range of Educational Level	3-19 yrs.
Average Cost/Person Per Week:	\$107	Average Rent/Group/Month	\$1,426
Residents Working:	92%	Average Monthly Earnings:	\$1,695
Percent Addicted To Drugs and Alcohol:	74%	Percent Addicted to Only Alcohol:	26%
Race --		Marital Status --	
White;	62%	Never Married	44%
Black;	44%	Separated	18%
Other	4%	Divorced	33%
		Married	5%
Prior Homelessness:	64%	Average Time Homeless:	5.2 Mos.
Prior Jail:	76%	Average Jail Time:	11 Mos.
Average AA or NA Meetings Per Week:	5.2	Percent Going To Counseling <u>plus</u> AA/NA:	45%
Average Length of Sobriety of House Residents:	12.5 Mos.	Residents Expelled Because of Relapse:	16.7%
Average Length of Stay In An Oxford House:	9.1 Mos.	Average No. of Applicants For Each Vacant Bed:	4.4

¹ As of June 30, 2013 based on standard OHI survey and house reports. Number of houses and beds is as of the beginning of December 1, 2014.

Oxford House Fast Facts

- **14,416 - Number of Oxford Recovery Beds**
- **1,824 - Number of Oxford Houses as of December 1, 2014**
- **44 - Number of States having Oxford House**
- **482 - Number of towns or cities having Oxford Houses**
- **\$1,695 - Average monthly income of residents**
- **\$107 - Average weekly share of expenses paid by Oxford residents**
- **64% of Oxford House residents had been homeless for an average total length of 5 months**
- **74% addicted to drugs and alcohol - 26% just alcohol**
- **76% had done jail time connected to their addiction, averaging 11 months**
- **12.5 months - Average length of sobriety**
- **206 - New Oxford Houses started CY 2014 (68 houses for women; 138 for men)**
- **1,606 Total Added Recovery Beds (1,089 for men; 519 for women).**
- **CY 2014 residents: 30,116 with 16.7% expelled because of relapse.**