

# OXFORD HOUSE

Peer-Support Recovery with Proven Success

**Jackson Longan**  
**Regional Outreach Manager** 

# Three Core Principles

## **Oxford House Inc. Charter Requirements:**

- Democratically ran
- Financially self-supporting
- Immediate expulsion for relapse

## **Also:**

- Gender specific
- Minimum of 6 adult beds
- Adherence to Oxford House Model, Traditions & Manual

# Origin

- The first Oxford House was opened in Silver Spring, MD in 1975.
- Since then Oxford House has expanded to:
  - 2400+ Houses
  - 19,000+ Beds
  - 46 States
  - 5 Countries
- No one ever asked to leave without cause.
- Houses available to:
  - Men
  - Women
  - Women & Children
  - Men & Children

# OPENING HOUSES



Oxford House Will Rogers in Claremore, OK

- Start-up Loan
- Large homes
- Nice neighborhoods
- Long-term leases
- Adequate parking
- Close to public transportation
- Close to employment
- Close to 12-step meetings

# MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

- Withdrawal-free sobriety
- Willingness to work a recovery program
- Ability to pay Equal Share Expenses
- Adherence of Oxford House Model and house guidelines

# BECOMING A MEMBER

- Fill out application (found at [www.oxfordhouse.org](http://www.oxfordhouse.org))
- Call a house to set-up an interview
- Show up on time for interview
- Be open and honest during interview
- Acceptance = 80% yes vote by members
- If accepted, new member may move in immediately

# STRUCTURE

- Over 40 years of experience of what works
- Three core charter requirements
- Nine traditions to follow
- House manual
- Chapter support
- State Association support
- Alumni support
- Outreach support
- Oxford House World Services Support

# STRUCTURE

## **House Officers: (six month terms)**

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Comptroller
- Chore Coordinator
- Housing Services Rep.



# STRUCTURE

## **House Meeting**

- Weekly
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Democracy in action
- Financial decisions
- Contracts
- Majority Rules

# THE OUTREACH WORKER

- \$80K - \$90K Cost FTE
- Finds and opens houses
- Networking with partners and supporters
- Resident training
- Quality Control
- Conflict Resolution
- Liaison with Drug Court Coordinator

# RURAL CHALLENGES

- Quality homes in favorable locations
- Employment
- Transportation
- Recovery support services
- Filling vacancies

# BENEFITS

## **Members Receive:**

- 24/7 peer support
- Accountability
- Responsibility
- Safety
- Stability
- Greater chance of success
- Self Efficacy

# STATISTICS

## **DePaul NIAAA Study:**

- 897 Oxford House residents interviewed every four months for two years.
- 13.5% had relapsed
- Income increased from \$794 to \$942 per month
- 80% employed
- Less than 5% incarceration

Jason, Davis, Ferrari, & Anderson (2007)

# U.S. SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT

In the November 2016 U.S. Surgeon General's Report on alcohol, drugs, and health "Facing Addiction in America," Oxford House is singled out as:

**"A LEADING EXAMPLE OF RECOVERY-SUPPORTIVE HOUSES,"**

The report explains that people who lived in Oxford Houses after severe substance use disorder treatment were 2-times more likely to be abstinent and had higher incomes and lower incarceration rates at follow-up after two years than similar individuals assigned to receive standard care.

# U.S. SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT

The report also finds that “**THE NET COST BENEFIT** to the healthcare and criminal justice systems from the Oxford House assignment relative to standard care was estimated at **APPROXIMATELY \$29,000 PER PERSON** Over the 2-year follow-up period.”

# TO SUM IT ALL UP

- Oxford House gives alcoholics and addicts from all backgrounds the best chance at long-term recovery.
- Oxford House saves millions of tax dollars.
- Oxford Houses expansion is possible in any community with the right support in place
- Over 43 years of experience and backed by the federal government as a best program and practice.



# BUILDING RELATIONSHIP

NAVIGATING THE DRUG COURT WATERS  
INTERACTING WITH COUNSELORS AND JUDGES

Whit Holden  
Co-founder  
Oxford House, Inc.

# Outreach Drug Court Liaison Services

- Presentations to Judges, Administrators, Staff, & Participants
- Establish strong working relationship with Drug Court
- Pre-screening, application, interview, & placement assistance
- Conflict resolution
- Operational guidance
- Opening new Oxford Houses

# Reoccurring Problems, Conflicts & Issues

- We versus Them
- Having to be there versus Wanting to be there
- Time demands unique to Drug Court clients
- Oxford House guidelines versus Drug Court Court rules
- Drug Court contacts with Oxford House
- Differences among various Oxford Houses
- Scapegoating – using Oxford House as an excuse for personal troubles

# CONTACT US

National website: [www.oxfordhouse.org](http://www.oxfordhouse.org)

Vacancy Search: [www.oxfordvacancies.com](http://www.oxfordvacancies.com)

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