



# Abba House Guidelines

Each person in a family must do their part and follow certain guidelines for there to be order and cooperation. The situation at Abba House is even more intense than most families so it is even more important for us to have basic principles of respect and consideration for each other. The following are those guidelines:

1. No smoking is permitted at Abba House. **Violation of this rule may result in immediate dismissal.** This includes when you are on pass.
2. Absolutely all medications in your possession must be surrendered to the intake person when first entering Abba House. Possession of alcohol or drugs is forbidden. **Violation of these rules will result in immediate dismissal.**
3. Drug testing will be administered at any time as deemed necessary by staff. Failing these tests may result in immediate dismissal. **Refusal to take drug screening will result in immediate dismissal.**
4. **Violence and the threat of violence will not be tolerated and are grounds for immediate dismissal.**
5. Be on time for all activities and be where you are assigned. No one is to leave any activity before being dismissed. Before leaving assigned work area, please clean area and put tools away.
6. Bathing daily, brushing teeth regularly and wearing clean clothing every day is mandatory personal hygiene. Beds must be made and rooms must always be clean.
7. Cultivating romance is an activity that is not permitted while you are in the ministry. We must focus on getting well. Continuing relationships and visitation with people we are not married to while at Abba House must be approved by staff.
8. No food or drink is permitted outside the kitchen or dining area. Absolutely no food is to be eaten between meals except approved snacks. Water is to be drunk between meals. No special food will be made. We will eat the food that is prepared.

9. No visitors are permitted without permission from Abba House staff. The visitor must be on your Approved Personal Contact List.

11. All appointments and leaving the property must be approved. We must sign out before leaving, giving time of return and telephone where you can be reached. Students that return late from a pass will have their pass privileges suspended.

12. Contact with family and/or immediate family is delayed during the first 30 days of the program with one exception, to contact and communicate with young children, on the basis of what is best for the child.

14. All Mail is to be addressed to:

**Abba House 2089B US Hwy 41 S  
Perry, Ga. 31069**

15. After the initial 30 days residents will receive a “Personal Contact List Form” to fill out. Once the contacts have been approved by staff, resident will be permitted to receive mail, phone calls during scheduled hours, visits and will be permitted to schedule passes with the approved contacts.

16. MP3 players, radios and CD players are permitted. Per policy Abba House allows only Christian music to be played. Residents may also listen to audio teachings and books that have been approved.

17. Modesty is required.



Abba House

MIDDLE GEORGIA

Transforms Lives Restores Hope Rebuilds Families

### Medical Screening Form

A complete physical must be made by a doctor including testing for Covid 19, HIV, STD, Hepatitis, TB and Pregnancy in the week prior to intake. **Applicants must have the Medical Screening Form completed by a doctor prior to admittance. Fax or mail and return with the other required documents (application and 5-page life history letter)**

Disease	Results	Treated
COVID 19	Positive Negative	Yes No
HIV	Positive Negative	Yes No
STD	Positive Negative	Yes No
Hepatitis A	Positive Negative	Yes No
Hepatitis B	Positive Negative	Yes No
Hepatitis C	Positive Negative	Yes No
TB	Positive Negative	Yes No
Pregnancy	Positive Negative	Yes No

Name of Office/Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_



## Pre-admittance Information

Due to the nature of our ministry, it is our policy to not admit clients who have been convicted of violent crimes, sexual crimes or crimes against children or the elderly.

### **Dear Prospective Students and Their Families:**

Abba House is a 501 C-3 not-for-profit corporation in the State of Georgia. The ministry is a Christian ministry and is located in Perry, GA.

The women we minister to suffer from many types of abuse and are without hope. Many are addicted to drugs or alcohol. Their needs are great.

### **Admittance**

**Students entering the ministry must have a valid form of identification.** Drivers Licenses or State Identification cards with photo are acceptable.

**A complete physical must be made by a doctor including testing for Covid 19, HIV, STD, Hepatitis, TB and Pregnancy in the week prior to intake. Applicants must have the Medical Screening Form completed by a doctor prior to admittance.**

**Psychotropic medications are not permitted.**

**You must already be detoxed from drugs or alcohol.** We must coordinate your admittance with the facility you go to for detox. Do not leave the detox facility before the staff there contacts Abba House intake personnel 478-218-0043 Ext. 6212 or Ext. 6214.

**You must be able to read, write and speak English.**

**A commitment to a (15) Fifteen-month minimum is required.**

**At the time of admittance, you must make us aware of any legal issues.** We will need any information regarding probation, pending charges, pending or active court cases that you may have, so we can make appropriate arrangements. We must know if you are on community control (house arrest) so appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Family members found to have known or aided in students violating any of the Abba House Guidelines will be removed from the students Approved Contact List.**  
**Person providing transportation must remain until intake is complete.**

Women desiring admittance must be free from drugs, medications or alcohol at the time of arrival or they will be required to go to detox before being admitted.

Unacceptable clothing or any clothing over our specified amount will be sent back with person providing transportation.

One large suitcase and a small carry-on bag are permitted because of limited area for storage.

**Automobiles for students are not allowed on Abba House property.**



Family visits will only be permitted for parents or other involved family members having participated in Family Recovery classes at least once a month. Other options are available for families living more than 250 miles away and need to be discussed with program director.

**No medical or dental problems can be ongoing at admittance. Treatment must be complete before being admitted.**

Students must bring a pillow and towels with them.

### **Money for students**

No money will be retained in personal possession. We recommend that you NOT send students money without contacting Abba House Staff at 478-218-0043 Ext. 6214 no matter what they say. You could be encouraging them to leave.

\$50.00 is permitted to be held in their account by Abba House in the safe. There may be times when emergency medical or dental care is needed and you may desire to help. Please send money through the office. The only way we can cash a check is if it is a money order or bank check made out to Abba House. Please note on the check or money order the name of the student it is for.

If you are interested in apply to Abba House, we ask that you write a five-page life-history letter describing your life, family life, drug/alcohol problems, and complete legal, marital and medical status. Please mail this letter to the address below:

Abba House 2089B US Hwy S.  
Perry, Ga. 31069 or visit  
[www.Abbahouse.com](http://www.Abbahouse.com) and click  
on the APPLY tab.

Or, it can be typed and emailed to [Intake@abbahous.com](mailto:Intake@abbahous.com)

# We need your help!

A member of your family has a problem that is controlling their life. We would like to talk to you about ways you can help them to help themselves.

Experience has taught us that there are things that you might do that can help and things you might do that can be detrimental to your loved one getting help. When women come into our ministry they give up much of their personal freedom. They are told what to do and when to do it with few choices. Obedience has not been their strong suite and rebellion has been a way of life. It is no mistake that people who are chemically dependent are called users. They have used drugs and alcohol. They have used you. They tend to be very self-centered. Because of these traits there are a few things we would like to warn you about.

## **Rescuing Them**

The Bible states that “*what we have sown we will surely reap*”. As parents and friends, we don’t want the people we care about to suffer so we attempt to keep them from paying for their mistakes. We can rescue them from the very consequences that will cause them to change. Life at Abba House at times will be difficult and at times they will want to run. Students will complain that they are being mistreated, that living conditions are impossible, etc. Do not rescue them. Talk with staff first before doing anything. You will frequently find that the truth about the situation is very different from what you are being told.

## **Money for students**

Chemically dependent people will have times of desire to medicate themselves instead of facing problems they have experienced or are experiencing now. Sending them money will provide the means and incentive to leave to buy drugs or alcohol. Our desire is that students learn to be responsible for themselves. We want them to learn not to spend what they do not have. Your cooperation is requested. No money will be retained by students in their personal possession. We recommend that you not send them money without contacting our office no matter what they say. You could be encouraging them to leave. Only \$50.00 will be permitted to be held by Abba House in the safe. There may be times when emergency medical or dental care is needed and you may desire to help. Please send money through the office. The only way we can cash a check is if it is a money order or bank check made out to Abba House, Inc. Please note on the check or money order the name of the student it is for.

## **Family Involvement and Visits**

We have found that the time that students are receiving ministry can be the time for the whole family to be healed. During this time the family can learn to communicate better. There are things that have needed to be talked about that can be shared. This can be a perfect time to seek and give forgiveness. We encourage you to come and visit and take part in the healing.

This is a good time to ask your loved one to forgive you for the things you have done to hurt them or how you know you have failed them. It is difficult to face our own shortcomings but that will set an example and encourage your child to face their failures honestly. There may be times when the quality or content of communications with some family members becomes counterproductive and the ministry team here will restrict contact or communications. Please understand that we are very supportive of family reconciliation. There are however times when the students are unable to do this in a healthy way. We may halt it temporarily until the situation improves. We will do the best we can in the ministry office to keep you abreast of progress if we have a signed release from the student approving our giving you information

## **Respect Their Commitment**

Don't encourage students to leave before they are ready. Many students in our ministry have children and you may even be caring for the children while your loved one gets help. We would suggest that you seek support and help in dealing with the large responsibility that children can be through your church or through friends. You will do a great disservice to the children if you pressure the parent with a serious addiction problem to leave before they are ready. Children need whole parents not parents that receive a little healing. Students who complete the first phase of their program have just begun. They will have their whole life to live with their children. They will eventually be able to love their children out of health instead of sickness. Please be patient and let God do the work He needs to do in them. It took a long time to get to where they are and it takes time to be healed.

## **Visiting and Communication with Students**

**Contact is delayed for 30 days except for women contacting their younger children.** After 30 days contact is with immediate family only Mother, Father, Sister or Brother, and Children. No boyfriends or fiancées. Visiting, writing, phone calls or passes can only take place with family members.

Calls to residents can be received on Fridays 6:00 - 8:45 pm and Sundays 1:30 -8:45 pm.

Students Mailing Address:  
Abba House, C/O Students Name  
2089B US Hwy 41. S  
Perry, Ga. 31069

Family Recovery Classes are offered to families of women who are students at Abba House and other families in the community struggling with life-controlling problems. This is a time of healing, restoration, reconciliation and learning.

These classes will be held at Abba House two Sundays each month please check for dates and times each month. Attending one Family Recovery Class each month is required in order to continue communication with resident including calling, writing or visiting a student or taking them on passes including the day of the visit.

**Note: Visitation will be postponed if families have not attended family group in the lasts 30 days.**

Please contact us at: 4478-218-0043 Ext. 6214 by 2pm Fridays if you plan to attend the Family Recovery Class and visit a resident on any particular Sunday.

Family visits will only be permitted for parents or other involved family members having participated in Family Recovery classes. Other options are available for families living more than 250 miles away and need to be discussed with program director.

## **Romance and Recovery**

Romance and recovery do not mix. You need to know that women in the ministry are not allowed to communicate with men that are not in their immediate family in any way including while they are on pass. Be suspicious if you are asked to mail a letter for a student. It is important that students focus on getting help not on relationships. **Family members found to have known or aided in students violating the Abba House Guidelines will be removed from the students Approved Contact List.**