

Freedom House Aftercare Program

Utilizing the Peer-to-Peer
Model to Maintain an Effective Support
System and Prevent Recidivism

Freedom House

- 14 bed GPD-Transitional housing for homeless male veterans
- Opened in 2005
- Funded mostly by the VA
- Eligibility determined by discharge type and length of service
- Average stay 6 to 9 months
- Has served 450 veterans since opening

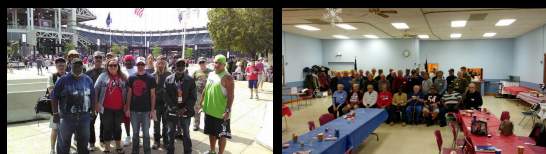
Freedom House Aftercare

- Started in 2013
- Open to all veterans who exit Freedom House
- Participants' ages range from 30 to 72
- Average 10 attendees per meeting
- Most participants have limited or no contact with family
- Become each other's family and sole support

Freedom House staff contacts former residents by phone or mailing the second week of each month to invite them to the meeting.



Meetings are held the last Friday of every month at 5:30pm unless another event occurs. Meetings generally last two hours.



When needed, transportation is provided by the Aftercare Liaison, Walter Williams, with Freedom House's van or bus tokens.

Attendees enjoy a meal together and are given a bag with toiletries and other non-perishable items. They are also permitted to take clothing from the donation area.



Goals of Aftercare

Prevent:

- Isolation
- Relapse
- Recidivism

Promote:

- Healthy Relationships
- Sobriety
- Increased Self-Sufficiency

During Meetings

Topics:

- Current Events
- Priorities
- Health and Wellness
- Identifying Needs

Access to Resources:

- AA/NA Meetings
- Food/Utility Assistance
- Medical/Mental Health Care

A recurring topic of the meetings is maintaining sobriety and identifying the triggers that may lead to relapse.

Participants in the Aftercare program are encouraged to maintain contact with one another and to continue to be a part of a larger support system to prevent isolation, relapse and (most importantly) recidivism.



Thank You



Presented by Matt Slater, Walter Williams
and Jason Davis