

Title: Visitors for Youth
Issued By: Rights of Passage
Applies To: Program Services

I. POLICY

Youth may receive visitors during their stay at the Rights of Passage (ROP), provided both youth and visitors abide program limitations and guidelines.

II. PURPOSE

To encourage positive social networks for ROP youth maintaining sanctuary for staff and other youth.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Sign-in and Sign-out

1. Youth must sign-in and sign-out their visitors at the Front Desk;
2. Visitors may be asked to present valid identification;
3. Youth are permitted to sign-in a maximum of two (2) visitors;
4. Youth on the 4th floor are permitted to sign-in as visitors the youth on the 3rd floor, and vice versa;
5. Prior to signing in youth from the Crisis Program as visitors, obtain approval from the Crisis Program Team Leader and ROP Youth Worker; and
6. Youth are not permitted to ask another youth to sign-in other visitors on their behalf.
7. For the duration of the time that youth are required to be out the building (such as during job search or on school plan), they are not permitted –
 - a. To sign-in visitors; and/or
 - b. To be signed-in as a visitor on another floor.

B. Suitable Visitor

1. Visitors must be personally known to the ROP youth they are visiting;
2. If the visitor is 16 years old or younger, obtain prior approval from the Program Manager.

C. Hours and Areas of Visit

1. Youth are permitted to have visitors in the common spaces –
 - a. From 10:00 am until 11:00 pm from Sunday to Thursday; and
 - b. From 10:00 am until 1:00 am from Friday and Saturday.
2. Visitors are not permitted in any room occupied by youth at any time.

- D. Responsibility of Youth
 1. Youth must stay with their visitors at all times.
 2. No physical contact is permitted between youth and their visitors.
 3. Do not lend room key or fob to any visitor.
- E. Restriction on Visitors
 1. Do not use the washroom in the youth's rooms; instead, obtain the key to the common washroom from any Youth Worker on shift;
 2. Do not use any of the computers at ROP;
 3. Do not partake of food available at ROP, with the exception of meals served during Community Dinner;
- F. Visitors will be asked to leave if –
 1. Their presence or behaviour is problematic; or
 2. The needs of youths or shortage of program staff make it inappropriate to have non-residents on the premises.
- G. Visitors may be temporarily or permanently banned from ROP premises if staff believe they pose a sanctuary risk.
- H. Violation of any provision of this policy by the youth and their visitor may result in the suspension of visitor privileges.