



St. Francis
HOUSE
Compassion. Shelter. Opportunity.



St. Francis House Volunteer Agreement

If you are under 18 years of age, a) a parent or legal guardian must also accompany you, unless you are with an organized, chaperoned group which has Saint Francis House permission to participate and b) parent or legal guardian must sign this release.

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT THAT AFFECTS YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS. THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY (the "Release") executed on _____, 20__, by _____ (the "Volunteer") in favor of **St. Francis House**, a nonprofit corporation, and its directors, officers, employees, and agents. The Volunteer desires to work as a volunteer for St. Francis House and engage in the activities related to being a volunteer for St. Francis House (the "Activities"). The Volunteer understands that the Activities may include physical labor, exposure to hazardous conditions, or other circumstances that may result in personal injuries. The Volunteer hereby freely, voluntarily, and without duress executes this Release under the following terms:

1. **Release and Waiver.** Volunteer does hereby release and forever discharge and hold harmless St. Francis House, its successors, assigns, directors, officers, employees and agents from any and all liability, claims, and demands of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, that arise or may hereafter arise from Volunteer's Activities with St. Francis House.

VOLUNTEER UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS RELEASE DISCHARGES ST. FRANCIS HOUSE FROM ANY LIABILITY OR CLAIM THAT THE VOLUNTEER MAY HAVE AGAINST ST. FRANCIS HOUSE WITH RESPECT TO ANY BODILY INJURY, PERSONAL INJURY, ILLNESS, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE THAT MAY RESULT FROM VOLUNTEER'S ACTIVITIES WITH ST. FRANCIS HOUSE, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF ST. FRANCIS HOUSE OR ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, OR AGENTS OR OTHERWISE. VOLUNTEER ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT ST. FRANCIS HOUSE DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR OR OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OR OTHER ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO MEDICAL, HEALTH, OR DISABILITY INSURANCE IN THE EVENT OF INJURY OR ILLNESS.

2. **Assumption of the Risk.** The Volunteer understands that the Activities may involve work that may be hazardous to the Volunteer. Volunteer hereby expressly and specifically assumes the risk of injury or harm in the Activities, and releases St. Francis House from all liability for injury, illness, death, or property damage resulting from the Activities.

3. **Photographic Release.** Volunteer does hereby grant and convey unto St. Francis House all right, title, and interest in any and all photographic images and video or audio recordings made by St. Francis House during the Volunteer's Activities with St. Francis House, including, but not limited to, any proceeds, or other benefits derived from such photographs or recordings.





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4. As a volunteer of this organization, I understand that I may have access to **confidential information**, both verbal and written, relating to clients, volunteers or staff and the organization. I understand, and agree, that all such information is to be treated confidentially and discussed only within the boundaries of my volunteer position at this organization. I also agree not to discuss these same matters after I have left my volunteer position at this organization.

5. **Choice of Law.** Volunteer expressly agrees that this Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Florida and that this Release shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. Volunteer also agrees that in the event that any clause or provision of this Release shall be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining provisions of this Release which shall continue to be enforceable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Volunteer has executed this Release as of the day and year first above written.

Volunteer: _____

Witness: _____

Witness printed name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: _____ **Date:** _____





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St. Francis Housing Crisis Center Mission Statement

The St. Francis House Mission is to engage the homeless in achieving stability, self-sufficiency, and a viable plan for their future by providing a safe, stable environment, access to essential services, supportive connections, and to advocate for changes that address the needs of the homeless population.

Philosophy

At St. Francis House we believe that all individuals should be treated with dignity, respect and honesty. We believe that all people should be valued and given opportunities that assist them in achieving successful, productive, happy lives.

We believe by providing for basic needs, providing safe and supportive environments, encouraging the development of skills, and offering opportunities for the growth of self-efficacy we will facilitate the desired outcome of self-sufficiency.

Beliefs:

- We believe client-centered work should be a partnership between the client and caring professionals
- We believe in the power of mentoring and role-modeling
- We believe in engaging clients as active partners, building on their assets and strengths in order to overcome difficulties and barriers associated with homelessness and street life
- We believe in the power of client participation and advocacy

Values:

Honesty / Respect / Dignity / Self-determination / Client participation

Principles:

- All clients regardless of their circumstances, deserve to be offered safety, support and the final voice in the direction of their life
- Honesty forms the basis of all interactions with clients
- Building relationships with the clients we serve is based on trust, honesty and non-judgmental communication
- We believe in a client's active involvement and participation in self-determination
- We will work to empower homeless and at-risk persons through an approach that is asset-based and not problem-focused





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As a volunteer, I agree to:

- Perform my volunteer duties to the best of my ability;
- Adhere to St. Francis House rules and procedures; including record keeping requirements and the confidentiality of agency and client information;
- Adhere to my volunteer commitments, or to provide adequate notice so that alternate arrangements can be made;
- At all times, conduct myself as a member of the team responsible for accomplishing the mission of St. Francis House;
- Wear appropriate clothing and closed toe shoes when I volunteer.

About St. Francis House

- In 1984, the St. Augustine Society was formed by local volunteers and faith-based groups to open a soup kitchen. The first meals were served at the St. Paul AME Church.
- The organization moved to its own building at 70 Washington Street in 1985, and began services under the name of St. Francis House.

Although much has changed, services continue in the same building to this day. Additional services and buildings were added as the years progressed.

- 1986 – shelter for men added.
- 1987 – shelter for women added.
- 2011 – 64 Washington Street leased from St. Mary's Baptist Church for Transitional Living Program.
- 2012 – 76 Washington Street purchased for Family Shelter
- 2013 – 64 Washington Street purchased.
- 2015 – Board of Directors commit to expanding services to unserved populations in our community.
- 2016 – SOS Street Outreach for adults launched.
Port in the Storm Youth Center building purchased.
- 2017 – SOS Youth Street Outreach launched.
Port in the Storm Youth Program begins.

