

Where lives come together



GuestHouse[®]
For Clergy & Men Religious

GuestHouse.org

800-626-6910

A Vision is Realized



More than half a century ago, Austin Ripley founded Guest House – with what at the time was a revolutionary mission – to treat religious and clergy who suffered from chemical addiction, such as alcoholism.

Ripley believed it was essential to treat chemical dependency in an atmosphere which affirms the special nature of the priesthood and religious life. He also knew that the most effective treatment should use twelve-step recovery in order to treat a disease which is physical, spiritual and emotional.

Time has proven Austin Ripley right. Since its beginning, Guest House has helped thousands of clergy and religious to be released from the ordeal of alcoholism, drug dependency and process addictions, and many live renewed productive lives in recovery.

Studies have shown that more than 90 percent of those who undergo primary treatment at Guest House are still abstinent after 24 months.

Guest House provides a special community atmosphere for men suffering from addiction. It demonstrates that they are not alone and that recognition of their dependency should not be a source of shame but rather the first step toward resumption of happy and purposeful lives.

Guest House is proud of its history of services and of its commitment to the priesthood, religious life and the Catholic Church.



"None come too early, none return too late"

A Place of Hope & Healing

At Guest House we know that the foundation of our successful recovery program depends on the content and focus, but we also know there are other factors that contribute to our success. We believe that the unique nature of the religious life for priests, brothers, deacons and seminarians requires special, personalized attention which honors not only their human dignity but their calling and commitment as well.

Experience tells us that a nurturing environment and a healing atmosphere help our clients break through barriers which might otherwise be impenetrable. Addictions are not moral issues. The illness can be successfully treated; and by treating the illness, priests, deacons, brothers and seminarians can be restored to sober and productive lives.

The Guest House program is licensed by CARF (Comission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities).



Guest House[®]
Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the information, education, treatment and care needed to assure that clergy, men and women religious, and seminarians suffering from alcoholism and other specified addictions have the best opportunity for quality recovery and overall health and wellness.

Treatment

Guest House is a state-licensed residential treatment center in Lake Orion, Michigan. It has a licensed and certified clinical and professional staff and is accredited. It offers alcoholism and substance abuse treatment, compulsive eating disorder treatment and related services to priests, deacons, brothers and seminarians from across the United States as well as around the world.

Services

- Comprehensive evaluation services, including psychological, spiritual and psychosocial components
- On-site medical director
- An intensive, interdisciplinary, interpersonally-focused treatment program
- Three-phase continuing care and follow-up services—after phase three of continuing care, personalized follow up is available
- Consultation for community leadership, superiors and formation personnel

All our services are provided in collaboration with leadership. Treatment is provided regardless of a diocese's or community's ability to pay for services.



For more information please contact us:

800-626-6910 (phone)

248-393-0186 (fax)

mensdirector@guesthouse.org

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Intervention Assistance Program

The Guest House Intervention Assistance Program is designed to help get someone started on the road to recovery. Its aim is to unmask the denial and help the priest, deacon, brother or seminarian admit there is a possible problem. This is the first step toward recovery. Ending denial requires considerable courage and is the only way to recovery.

The Guest House Intervention Assistance Program

- Consultation, including assisting in information gathering and preparation—on site, if necessary
- Telephone contact and support throughout the process
- Personnel support during the actual intervention, if needed
- Professional evaluation in an appropriate clinical setting
- Recommendation of treatment options and/or escort to a professional treatment facility



Assessment & Evaluation

Effective treatment begins with a thorough understanding of the individual's difficulties as well as the impact of those difficulties on his diocese or community.

Professional Assessment

- Complete psychological test battery and clinical interview
- Complete medical examination
- Thorough psychosocial and spiritual history, with particular attention to long standing patterns of difficulty
- Comprehensive addiction screening process
- Feedback conference with the client, his leadership and the evaluating team to review the results of the assessment and discuss recommendations of the staff

Referrals & Admissions

Information on program services, referrals and admissions is available 24 hours a day by calling 800-626-6910.

Referrals

Referrals may be made by authorized representatives of the diocese or religious community, primary treatment centers, physicians, other concerned individuals, or the priest, deacon or seminarian himself.

The admission must be approved by the bishop or other religious leadership.

Admissions

Guest House will admit any man suffering from alcohol abuse, drug abuse or compulsive eating and who is experiencing difficulties related to chemical use or is at risk of relapsing. Treatment will be provided regardless of ability to pay.

Admissions are scheduled by appointment. Those arriving by plane will be met at the airport by a Guest House staff member. For information please call 800-626-6910.



*“We cannot remake ourselves without suffering, for we are both the marble and the sculptor.”
- Alexis Carrel*

Continuing Care & Extended Care

Continuing care is an important element of effective treatment. Ongoing attention aids the client in the re-entry process by helping him to apply the skills learned in treatment to daily life. We offer three phases of on-site continuing care and further follow up upon request.

Support for Ongoing Recovery

- Detailed description of ongoing supports needed
- Therapeutic leave toward the end of the intensive program which allows the priest, brother, deacon or seminarian to share his experience, needs and commitments to his recovery with significant persons in his community, family and ministerial life
- Re-entry visit, when appropriate, scheduled with the parish or religious community, the client and the therapist
- Continuing care for one week at Guest House, conducted at six, twelve and eighteen months post discharge
- On-campus extended care available when recommended
- Participation in the appropriate support system, which provides the priest, brother, deacon or seminarian the opportunity to develop a mature appreciation of his strengths and vulnerabilities

*“We must always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise we harden.”
-Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

Education

Our education department provides a variety of services utilizing Guest House clinical staff and other experts across disciplines, depending on the requests of those we serve.

Presentations and Workshops

- Addiction and Risk Management – an overview of addictive disorders
- Addiction and Trauma – explores the relationship of addiction and personal trauma
- The Impact of Addictions on Spirituality
- The Intervention Process
- The Evaluation and Treatment Process
- The Role of Leadership in the Treatment Process

Other Services

- Consultations
- Workshops and retreats
- Convocation presentations
- Clergy study days
- Seminary presentations
- Personnel management training
- In-service presentations on policy and training for diocesan and religious institutions

To schedule a presentation in your area or to learn more about educational opportunities, please contact Guest House at 800-626-6910 or GuestHouse.org.



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