



Cultivating Safe Space Communities

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MachKabba Gardens
****DRAFT** Community Agreement**

MachKabba Gardens is a quasi self-governing community serving as a transitional place where individuals can spend time while looking for housing and working on self-determined goals. This community is a place where we respect human dignity.

Our Community

We seek to create a community for those who are seeking shelter but are unable to find it. We feel it's necessary to establish a community-based environment where people living on the streets can have their basic needs met in a stable, sanitary environment free from violence, theft, and disruption of peace. Neighborhood relations are important and agreements outlined below will be respected in the surrounding community as well.

Community Agreement/Pledge:

I will be a positive member of this community and contribute toward making it a safe, secure, and clean place to live. Therefore, I agree to the following:

Respect. I will be a good neighbor. This includes being a good neighbor to all surrounding neighbors within the community. The way I interact will be based on dignity, safety, good guardianship, honesty, and respect for myself and others. This includes not using my resources or position to manipulate others.

Non-discrimination. We all have the right to expect dignity and opportunity. I will not disrespect others based on sex, race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, citizenship status, age, handicap/disability, marital status, source of income, arrest record, conviction record, less than honorable discharge, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic identity, political beliefs, familial status, student status, domestic partnership status, receipt of assistance, unemployment or status as a victim of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking, or economic status.

Weapons. For my own safety as well as the safety of others, I will not wield a weapon or act violently toward others or myself. No firearms are permitted on the premises.

Theft. I will respect other people's property and I expect other people to respect mine. I will respect community property and space.

Alcohol and Drug Policy. Misuse of drugs and alcohol can damage the community. I agree to follow all drug and alcohol policies. No public use of intoxicating substances allowed. No inappropriate behavior in public spaces due to substance use. No pushing or sales allowed onsite.

Behaviors: No constant or recurring disruptive behavior.

Noise. I will honor quiet hours set by the Community, so that others and myself can stay healthy and rested.

Exterior storage. Shelter residents will keep the area in and around where they live clean and orderly and will not store personal items outside of the building within 10 feet of another shelter.

Community Space. I will help keep the community areas clean.

Pets. Pets are allowed, but limited to two pets. I will pick up after my pet immediately. I will keep my pet leashed at all times or in a temporary enclosure. Service animals and emotional support animals are not considered pets, but owners must clean up after animals and keep them leashed if appropriate.

Safety equipment. Residents will maintain the safety equipment inside shelters (smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector, fire extinguisher) and agree not to have open flames (candles, etc) inside the shelters.

Meetings. I agree to participate in the work of self-governance, including meetings, conflict resolution process, and agreed-upon approaches to de-escalation of any conflicts.

911. I will exercise my responsibility for the safety and security of the community. For life-threatening emergencies or physical injury requiring immediate medical assistance, I will call 911 and notify staff.

Smoking. Per Wisconsin state ordinances, I will not smoke indoors, including electronic devices. Smoking will be limited to outdoors or designated areas as described by Wisconsin statute.

Guests. Guests are allowed between the hours of 8am and 10pm. All guests must sign in and follow the terms of the community agreement. You are responsible for the behavior of your guest while they are on the property.

MachKabba Gardens is a place where people value community and support each other. I acknowledge that the success of the shelter depends upon my and everyone else's cooperation and willingness to abide by this agreement. Therefore, I promise to abide by all of these agreements and others that may be developed by the community.

I understand that minor violations of this agreement may result in a requirement for community building activities. Serious violations may result in being asked to leave.

Signature _____ Date _____