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www.universityhousing.uwm.edu

Dear UW-Milwaukee University Housing Resident and UWM Parent or Family Member:

We are delighted that you have chosen to join us as a part of the University Housing community at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee! I'm sure that this is an exciting time for your family, as it is for all of us at UWM.

Like many colleges and universities across the United States, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is very concerned about students' use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs. Federal law governing the privacy of student records, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), permits colleges and universities to inform the family of a student under 21 years of age when their student has been found in violation of university alcohol or drug rules and/or in the case of a health or safety emergency.

A member of the Residential Programs professional staff will notify the family of a student under 21 years of age:

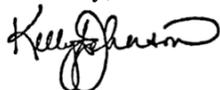
- 1. By a phone call, if that resident is transported to an emergency medical treatment center for drug use or intoxication or if a person's health and safety is at serious risk. (Staff will contact the person the student listed as his or her emergency contact at the time the student is transported.)**
- 2. In writing, if the University determines that the resident has committed a violation of alcohol or drug policies. (This letter will be sent within several business days of the determination or the student's responsibility. Some alcohol policy violations that are considered less serious—for example, a person's first time in a room where an empty beer can has been found—may not result in a notification letter being sent.)**

We also understand students want to be treated as adults. University Housing has only moved toward adopting this parental/family notification policy based on an increase in the number of medical transports due to serious alcohol intoxication and an increase in the prevalence of drug use. The safety and lives of our residents is of primary importance to us, we know by seeing what has been effective at other institutions that involvement from members of a student's support network, including family, often results in helping curb this behavior.

We know that the college years are a time of trial and error for many students. Students need opportunities to reflect upon their actions, accept responsibility, and learn from their mistakes. We have enclosed some tips about how to talk with your student about substance use along with some examples of our policies related to alcohol and illegal drugs and possible behavioral sanctions that are often assigned to residents who are found in violation of those policies.

We hope you will make the opportunity to discuss use of alcohol and other drugs with your student now, and again, should you receive a call or a letter from us. Please contact a member of our Residential Programs staff at (414) 229-5712 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kelly A. Johnson
Associate Director, University Housing

University Housing will assume that students are dependent (in terms of a parent(s)' taxes) unless they provide written documentation to our office stating that they have claimed independent status with the UWM Department of Financial Aid. This notification process will not apply to those students whose independence can be verified.

ACTIVITIES:

- **General Programs:** Our department sponsors an average of 20 social and recreational activities each week, and we have worked to increase offerings in late evenings and on weekends. This includes such things as movies in Sandburg Flicks, Karaoke nights, outings to the Milwaukee Art Museum, walking/running clubs, salsa dance lessons, discussions with professors, etc.
- **Alcohol and Other Drug Programs:** Some activities focus specifically on informing residents about responsible decision making regarding alcohol and other drugs include speakers and comedians, programs involving the UWM Police Department, and our very popular and consistently highly evaluated “Virtual House Party” (held early fall, this is an experiential activity where residents can see the risks and effects of participating in “house parties”).

POLICIES

For a comprehensive listing of the University Housing Rules and Regulations (and a full description of the University Housing Behavior Process) please check out our website at www.universityhousing.uwm.edu and click on “Resident Handbook.” In summary:

1. No person under the age of 21 may store, possess, or consume alcoholic beverages in the residence halls.
2. Student rooms where both residents are under the legal drinking age of 21 must be alcohol free at all times. Guests who are of legal drinking age may not consume alcohol in these rooms.
3. All people present in a room where the alcohol policy is being violated will be considered in violation of the alcohol policy, regardless of whether they personally consumed alcohol
4. As a practical matter of enforcement and in order to avoid disagreements regarding alcohol policy, empty alcohol beverage containers are not permitted in a student room where a resident is under the age of 21.

POSSIBLE SANCTIONS FOR POLICY VIOLATIONS

- **Judicial Educator Modules:** Residents assigned a Judicial Educator Module are required to complete an online training module (which consists of a slideshow with information relevant to the policy violation, followed by a “quiz”). Residents will be assessed a \$5 fee/module to cover the costs associated with this module.
- **Required Attendance at a CARD I Class:** CARD I (Choices About Responsible Drinking) Classes are generally about 1 ½-2 hours long, and consist of students learning more about the effects of alcohol on their health, academic success, and their community. Residents will be assessed a fee of \$20 (to cover costs associated with the class) if they are required to attend CARD I.
- **Required Attendance at a CARD II Class:** the CARD II (Choices About Responsible Drinking) class is reserved for students who have elevated alcohol-related policy violations and have already completed Judicial Educator modules and CARD I. Residents will be assessed a fee of \$35 (to cover costs associated with the class) if they are required to attend CARD II. **This program may change at some point during the 2009-2010 academic year to become combined with B.A.S.I.C.S*
- **Referral to B.A.S.I.C.S:** In cases where a resident has exhibited behavior that is cause for concern, such as excessive substance abuse, the University Housing staff may refer the resident to the Norris Health Center for participation in the B.A.S.I.C.S. (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention of College Students) Program. Refusal by a resident to cooperate with the reasonable requests of the staff regarding his/her disruptive and potentially dangerous behavior could result in Contract Action.
- **Contract Action:** Includes Warning, Contract Probationary Status, Deferred Contract Termination, and Contract Termination. Specific definitions of each of these terms can be found online in the Resident Handbook (also provided to residents when the move into the residence halls).
- **Referral to Dean of Students:** In cases where a student has repeatedly exhibited behavior that has been disruptive to University Housing or that violates provisions of UWM’s conduct code.