



AFFIRMATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

(Approved Feb 7, 2013)

Working Definition: A broad definition of a maternity housing provider is "any organization that provides housing as part of their life-affirming mission." This includes:

- Groups/organizations which operate a home(s)
- Groups/organizations which supervise those in beds or apartments for pregnant and parenting mothers and children.
- Families which take in pregnant/parenting mothers and babies under the supervision of an outside agency.
- Programs which supervise and/or offer counsel to mothers with babies before and/or after birth within their independent living situation.
- Other programs that directly support the development of maternity housing providers, with approval from the Leadership Council team.

1. I affirm that my organization is within this definition: _____ (Initials)

Addendum to Commitment to Care and Competence:

As a Maternity Housing Provider, I agree that in my organization:

- We create a dignified living environment where safety and well-being are upheld.
- We build and implement programs to promote overall health and address the practical needs of mothers such as counseling, education, parenting skills, and life skills.
- We rejoice in the gift of human life in all stages from conception until natural death. We do not recommend, provide, or refer for any means of abortion at any stage nor do we recommend, provide, or refer for any artificial contraceptives.
- We teach and promote sexual integrity as the positive lifestyle choice. If one is single, sexual integrity is refraining from sexual relations in all its forms. In marriage, sexual integrity means saving the intimacy of sexual relations solely for one's spouse.
- We celebrate adoption as a courageous, life-giving choice for some mothers. We promote adoption information and facilitate relationship with adoption agencies, with a preference for Christian-based agencies.
- While we understand that marriage between a man and a woman creates the ideal environment for raising children, we recognize that many women must face motherhood alone. We acknowledge that single parenthood is often a mother's heroic response to challenging life circumstances. We uphold and honor fatherhood and promote the healthy involvement of a father in the lives of their child(ren).
- We witness the Christian faith freely, embracing a charitable spirit of invitation and not coercion.
- We respect the truth-filled wisdom of related fields of work including homeless providers, addiction recovery, trauma and abuse, and others.
- We work in partnership with other life-affirming missions to provide seamless care for pregnant women in need of support.

2. I affirm these statements for my organization as an addendum to the Heartbeat Commitment to Care and Competence: _____ (Initials)

Name

Date

Organization