

PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER POLICY/PROCEDURE

SUBJECT: Religious Activities

Policy: While the Presbyterian Night Shelter protects and supports its clients' rights to practice and express their personal religious and spiritual beliefs, the history and impulse of the Night Shelter is a Christian one. As Jesus welcomed all, the Night Shelter seeks to model his all encompassing love. Religious people disagree as to doctrine and ritual – indeed, there is great diversity even within the Christian Church. Hence, the Presbyterian Night Shelter seeks a unity in service and compassion which is greater than distinctions in creed.

Procedure

1. Clients are not required to participate in any religious or spiritual activity sponsored by PNS. All religious or spiritual activities are optional for the client.
2. No client is rewarded for attending or participating in a religious or spiritual activity.
3. No client is punished for not attending or participating in a religious or spiritual activity.
4. PNS will seek to make accommodations to clients for their personal religious or spiritual beliefs as long as they conform to the rules and regulations of PNS and will not cause a disturbance or interfere with other clients.
5. Any group that wants to provide a religious or spiritual activity must be an approved volunteer group. Organized religious or spiritual group activities are optional for clients and cannot discriminate, preclude or exclude certain clients from participation.
6. The PNS chaplaincy is a Validated Ministry of Grace Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (USA). The mission of Grace Presbytery is to “proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ who saves, redeems, and reconciles the world to God through ministries of witness, justice, and mercy. Grace Presbytery prepares and supports leaders to build vital congregations that reach seekers and those in need, nurture disciples, and send apostles of our Lord into the world.”
7. The PNS chaplain position will provide religious and spiritual activities that reflect the mission of Grace Presbytery.