PET POLICY

[Option 1: Restrictive policy]

ABC ORGANIZATION is responsible for assuring the health and safety of all members and staff. In keeping with this objective, ABC ORGANIZATION does not permit members and/or employees to bring their household pets to the recovery residence. Animals may pose a threat of infection and may cause allergic reactions. Some individuals may feel threatened or be distracted by the presence of animals, particularly dogs.

[Option 2: Permissive policy – consider benefits against risks and liability]

ABC ORGANIZATION is responsible for assuring the health and safety of all members and staff. In keeping with this objective, ABC ORGANIZATION has formulated a policy balancing these concerns with the desire to promote a positive family experience by allowing appropriate pets in the recovery residence. A pet may be allowed in the recovery residence if its health and behavior are acceptable within a homelike setting, and if it does not adversely affect other members.

A pet owner wishing to bring a pet to the recovery residence should first obtain written permission from the house manager. Any decision to allow or exclude will be made by the house manager with input from members of the residence and ownership. That decision will be final, except in cases involving service animals, which should be referred to the owner/operator of the recovery home.

[Sample exemptions to above – service animals]

An employee or member who requires the help of a service animal (defined by 28 CFR 36.104 as "any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability") will be permitted to bring a service animal, provided that the animal’s presence does not create a danger to others and does not impose an undue hardship upon the members of the home.