

Information for Guests

Contributed by Indigenous Hospitality House
Thursday, 17 April 2008

Download Information including Map and Directions

The Indigenous Hospitality House is a communal house that offers a place for Indigenous people to stay while their family member is in hospital.

To be a guest at the House, you must first contact the Indigenous Liaison Worker at the hospital, or local health worker, and ask them to arrange your stay with us. The hospital also needs to be registered with the House.

The residents all welcome you, our guests, into our home.

DONATION

Guests are invited to make a donation towards the running of the House. The donation will cover food and utilities. We suggest \$5 per night per family. A resident can write you a receipt.

KITCHEN

Please feel free to use the kitchen. Tea, coffee, milk and sugar are provided along with some tinned soups and bread. Please wash up after yourself.

MEALS

Breakfast food is in the kitchen, to use as you need. Please use any dishes you want to, and wash up afterward. Lunch is not provided. There is a shelf in the fridge marked with an Indigenous flag that is kept empty by residents for any food you bring or buy.

Evening meal: all of our guests are invited to eat dinner with us each night at about 6.30pm. We can keep food we have prepared if you would like us to. Just let us know if you would prefer this.

LAUNDRY

A washing machine and detergent are available for you to use, and there are clotheslines outside (near the back door and around the side of the House).

PRAYER

The residents meet for prayer and reflection on weekday mornings at 8am. If you would like us to pray for you or your relative, or if you would like to join us, please let us know.

CHILDREN (U/18’s)

We love having children in our home, and enjoy their energy and company. However they remain at all times the responsibility of their adult relatives. We ask adult guests not to leave U/18 guests at the house alone.

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SMOKING

Smoking is not allowed in the House. There are ashtrays in the outdoor undercover area for smokers.

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Alcohol and drugs are not allowed into any part of the House under any circumstances (including guest rooms). No one who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be allowed to stay.

TELEPHONE

The House phone can be used for receiving calls and making local calls. Please put money in the jar when you make a call. There are public phones one block from the House on Rathdowne St.

PARKING

Street parking is time restricted to 2 hours. So if you have brought a car with you, please ask us for a visitors permit so you can park as long as you need to and avoid a fine!

KEYS

On arrival a responsible adult from your family will be given a set of keys to the House for the front and back doors, and your room. Please return them on your final day.

VISITORS

Your friends or relatives are welcome to visit, however we don't provide meals for visitors and they need to leave before 9pm in order to allow the House to settle down for the night.

STAYING AGAIN

If you, or any of your family, want to stay again you need to talk to the Indigenous Liaison Worker at the hospital where your relative is. We are not allowed to accept anyone who has not been referred.

GETTING HERE

The closest public transport is a tram along Lygon St. Catch either the number 1 or number 8 tram from Swanston Street (the main street of Melbourne's CBD). Get off at stop 117 (corner of Richardson Street – just past the Melbourne Cemetery). Or catch the number 96 tram from Collins St. This goes along Nicholson St – get off at Richardson or Pigdon St. If coming by car or taxi drive up Rathdowne or Lygon St and turn at Richardson or Pigdon St.

Here is some feedback from one of our referrers:

I would like to thank everyone involved at IHH for the wonderful job they do to provide very much needed support and understanding to my community member in the Echuca Region. I have rang and been successful in obtaining my need accommodation and support for family members who have loved one ill in hospital. At this critical time it is a blessing to know that you are there to offer support us.

Thank you once again

Yours in Community Spirit Sonya Parsons Finance Officer Njernda Aboriginal Corporation