



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why Aurora?

Simply stated, Aurora is perfect for this program. We all know Aurora as a beautiful, serene, rural community of farms and undisturbed natural areas. Further, the various criteria necessary for a safe environment are all satisfied. We need a location where we can consolidate a private residential home, program studios and an active farm environment to deliver the healing experience that distinguishes our program. It is Aurora's majestic feeling, and the sense of love and community that is important to us and we have an unfettered commitment to making WV known as a healing place opposed to its current reputation.

2. What type of residents will be staying at JL?

Young men ranging in age from 18-25 are welcomed at Jacob's Ladder. Backgrounds will be diverse but each of these young men will share a common malady; the disease of addiction. Some may have alcohol issues, and some may have opioid issues. Rigorous qualifications for our privately owned and operated treatment program are in place to ensure a safe and secure experience for our residents and our community neighbors.

3. Will the residents detox at Jacob's Ladder?

No. Jacob's Ladder at Brookside Farm facilitates the healing and recovery process for young men who volunteer to participate in the program. While some of the residents may have experienced and intervention and completed detox elsewhere, our focus is on education, and guided therapy toward an awakened recovery. Jacob's Ladder manages residential operations and coordinates a rigorous schedule of various therapies in partnership with clinical expertise from Chestnut Ridge Hospital (WVU Medicine), etc.

4. Where will they be coming from?

We will not restrict or adhere by any geographic boundary and we expect to serve residents from any state. We have a special place in our heart for West Virginia residents and are creating a foundation (501c3) to create scholarships for West Virginians who may not be able to afford the program.

5. Do you take court-ordered residents?

We are a private, self-pay program that requires all residents to volunteer to commit to the program, and who articulate a genuine willingness to quit. A critical element of our treatment strategy is an environment of unconditional positive regard, and that means that, at times, we will be forced to refuse acceptance to various individuals who may pose a threat to the program in any way.

6. How will you know if they're using drugs at your facility?

Sobriety and clean living are critical to our organization's success. Residents and staff will be drug tested regularly. Our current program guidelines anticipate a bi-weekly testing schedule, and we may do so more frequently if ever necessitated for any reason.



7. What's your staffing model?

Our residents will be under 24/7 supervision by trained addiction technicians and will spend time daily with their certified addiction counselors. Additionally, we have a variety of staff that will interact with the residents on a daily basis. We have a Program Director who has worked in some of the nation's leading facilities, a music and arts therapy director, and others who will be on site and engaged. To complement program staff, we have a fantastic partnership formed with Chestnut Ridge Hospital (WVU Medicine) for psychology and therapy treatment programs, and we are working on finalizing an exciting partnership with the Adventure Sports Institute at Garret Community College. We also have an integrated partnership with the Morgantown Sober Living House, where our residents will be able to continue their treatment, and also from where we will draw additional mentors of community-service oriented leaders.

8. Will they ever be on their own?

Residents will have 24/7 supervision and a structured daily schedule.

9. Do you accept "hardened criminals"?

Qualification evaluations will be an important component of individual qualification decisions. Past psychiatric evaluations will be reviewed during assessment. Our commitment to the safety of our residential community, and to our surrounding community dictates that high-risk factors for criminal activity, homicidal, or suicidal tendencies may be disqualified from our program.

10. What will they be doing? Will they interact with the community?

A regimented schedule of daily chores, meditation, yoga, therapy sessions, farming, meal preparation, 12-step meetings, group therapy sessions, supervised recreation excursions and family therapy sessions will not permit much time for being out in the community. We welcome and hope for an embracing neighborly community whereby our residents might offer their unique skills and talents to serve the community via service-related projects, which will be 100% supervised.

11. Will there be a contact number for us in case we have concerns?

Of course. We are a caring, loving community of professionals facing a national epidemic of bright, promising young men who have been led astray by the disease of addiction. We could not create the environment necessary – that of unconditional positive regard for self, others and the earth – if we did not practice the very principles we will mentor and teach. Transparency, openness and special focus on active listening are critical.

Please feel free to contact us at: (304) 239-1214.

12. How does Aurora benefit from this?

We expect to be barely noticed. However, we do see a variety of benefits for the community. We will have a constant pipeline of potential community service workers. Program design encourages routine engagement in service to others. We expect some of those projects to come from ideas you may suggest, and we may travel to support other areas who have needs. Indirect benefits are the resurrection of some historical buildings that had previously lost some of their luster. We are investing hundreds of thousands of dollars in restoration projects and will be open to suggestions on how we can improve Aurora.



13. What types of security measures are being taken?

Security is important to us. First, we are more concerned about the safety of our residents as it relates to untreated criminals that live in our communities. However, our security plan offers 360-degree attention. 24/7 supervision is in place with staff monitoring at all times. Additionally, we will have secure premises with technology in place to monitor all who come and go. Further, we have a regimented program in place to control contraband. Intake requirements will evaluate for any areas of concern and we will have routine inspections to ensure everyone is focused on our mutual goal of a healthy recovery.