



NEXT CHAPTER
MINISTRIES

Women's Lighthouse Application

Thank you for your interest in residency at Next Chapter Ministries. At NCM, we have a home for women transitioning back into the community from incarceration from both county and state facilities. This home, called the Lighthouse, is a Christian-living residential program for women where we take a holistic approach to support women through day-to-day life after incarceration.

A disciple is one who comes under the learning and guidance of another. We desire to assist, equip, and support women through teaching, modeling, and daily life together. We believe this model of re-entry can begin to address the roots that led to the cycle of incarceration and make way for deep, holistic, and sustaining change outside of systems.

Lighthouse residents commit to staying in the homes for a minimum of 3 months and may stay up to 18 months. Through weekly Bible studies, peer-led support groups, meals, counseling, activities, and life together in a safe and healthy community, women can gain an understanding of Christian doctrine, rebuild family relationships, begin to heal from past traumas, grow in their strengths, and learn to disciple others. At NCM, we are looking for women that have a desire for a new way of living, that are willing to be led, and that will be patient with the process.



To apply for residency, please be sure to complete and include the following pieces:

1. Fill out Lighthouse Application out completely
2. Carefully read and sign the Commitments page
3. A letter sharing life experiences that have shaped who you are
4. A letter of recommendation from a caseworker, counselor, job supervisor, pastor, chaplain, or peer

When completed, send either by email to Office@NextChapterRochester.org or by mail to P.O. Box 9321 Rochester, MN, 55903. After we have received your four pieces, we will review your application and contact your caseworker to plan out the next steps in the process, which may include an interview.

We would also like to note that we are Christ-centered organization and have a lasting commitment to being directed by the truth of the Bible. We want you to be aware that this organizational commitment shapes the culture, activities, and guidance you would be participating with as a resident. But please also know that being a Christian is not required to apply for residency and does not increase your potential of acceptance into residency. Feel free to share openly on your application & letter. We value honesty, welcome vulnerability, cherish those searching for truth in life, understand complexities with challenging pasts in churches and religions, and are accepting of wherever you may be on your faith journey.



Women's Lighthouse Application

Name: _____
(First) (Last) (Middle)

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ Today's Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Facility Name (Current Location) & Phone #: _____

Facility Address: _____

Racial Identity: Black Native American Hispanic White _____

Have you ever applied, participated, or lived at Next Chapter Ministries before? Yes No

Were you involved in the Juvenile Justice System as a youth? Yes No

Education (Please check all that apply & where you received education): GED/Diploma _____

Some College _____ College Degree _____ Other _____

Do you have any children? Yes No If so, how many? _____

Addictions History: Drug Alcohol Gambling Pornography Other _____

Date(s) of last use & Substance(s):

Have you ever had a mental health evaluation? Yes No If yes, when? _____

Do you have any medical/mental health conditions? If yes, please explain: _____

Are you taking any prescription medications? If so, please list them: _____

List date and nature of all convictions: (Please use separate sheet if needed) _____

Recent County of Conviction: _____ Release date: ____ / ____ / ____

Caseworker: _____ Phone #: _____

Probation/Parole Officer: _____ Phone #: _____

What positive things/activities have you engaged in during your incarceration? (Certifications, hobbies, treatment, mentorship, studies, classes, employment, groups, etc.)

What are some of your goals for the future & what are your greatest challenges to achieving them?

Please list work skills and jobs that you have had: _____

Are you a Christian? Yes No Not Sure **Below, please share why you selected your answer:**

Why are you interested in being a resident at the Lighthouse? _____

Thanks again for applying. Please ensure that you have fully completed and included all four pieces requested. We will contact you and/or your Caseworker regarding your application when we receive it.

Application Commitments Life experiences letter Letter of recommendation

Signature: _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / _____



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Women's Lighthouse Commitment

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."Philippians 1:6

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer, and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."Hebrews 12:1-2

As a resident of the Lighthouse, I commit to living and participating in the home for at least three months and may be offered residency for up to one year. Participation is a commitment to being actively involved in the day to day life, relationships, activities, and responsibilities of Next Chapter Ministries.

I commit to being a participant, not a recipient. I will participate in the lives of the others at NCM by building relationships based on truth and accountability, contribute to the care and maintenance of the homes, and take part in the activities and outreaches of NCM. My participation will help make the Lighthouse a strong home for all who live there now, as well as future residents.

I understand that my progress will be evaluated throughout my stay to ensure my residency is purposeful and fulfilling in regards to restoration to God, family, and community.

If accepted as a resident of the Lighthouse:

I commit to accomplish and stay on pace with the goals and expectations laid out in each phase of the Discipleship Map. The Discipleship Map will provide specific objectives, opportunities, accountability, and direction that will assist me in the process of Gospel Transformation and Restoration in my life.

I commit to not working during the first three weeks of my residency to accomplish specific items within the Discipleship Map. This intentional time will be used to prepare a solid foundation to be built upon for the rest of my residency. At the beginning of my fourth week of residency, I commit to working a full-time job or attending school.

There is no financial contribution during the first month of residency. I commit to paying \$450 at the beginning of each month ongoing. I may be dismissed from the Lighthouse if I do not remain accountable for this financial contribution.

I commit to be accountable to a financial mentor for a monthly budget and to be transparent with all of my money matters while I am a resident. This financial mentor will help me set up a budget, savings plan, set up a bank account, and will be available to assist and discuss decisions that will impact my financial goals.

I commit to attend a local church each weekend and to become an active part of that church. I also agree to participate in the scheduled on-site NCM Bible studies, as well as all other learning opportunities provided.

I commit to participating in the care and maintenance of the homes. I will be expected to accomplish these tasks to the standards of NCM Staff.

I commit to being an active participant in the activities and volunteer outreaches of NCM as a practical way to "love my neighbor as myself," to build healthy, lasting relationships, and to take steps to restore myself to the community. The Women's Ministry Staff will set up the activities and volunteer outreaches.

I commit to being in the home by the determined time for evening curfew. I understand that I am expected to stay in the home each night after curfew and that only accepted residents will be in the home overnight. I commit to not having anyone in the Lighthouse without both the knowledge and consent of the on-duty Women's Ministry staff. If given consent by staff, my guests will abide by NCM standards and will remain on the main floor of the home.

I commit to waiting at least three months before engaging in any intimate relationships and to use those three months to learn the characteristics of healthy relationships.

I commit not to use tobacco products, e-cigs, or vaporizers on NCM property. I also commit to abstain from the use of alcohol, illegal drugs, abuse or misuse of prescription drugs, and any other substance abuse. I will be subject to UA's, either at random or if suspected of being under the influence, as a heightened accountability measure and commitment to my sobriety. This also includes the use of medical cannabis.

I commit not to alter my room or to bring any extra household items (furniture, TV's, etc.) into the home without the consent of the Women's Ministry Staff. Rooms are subject to evaluation by staff at any time. Any personal belongings will not be held for more than thirty days after departure. I commit to discussing any moving or transition plans with staff at least 30 days before moving. I commit to following the established rules of NCM and all items in the Resident Manual.

The purpose of this agreement is to detail the expectations of Lighthouse residents. We are confident that engaging and following through with these commitments will benefit you greatly in your transformation, all while showing honor to God and your "neighbor". Also, we believe this agreement will help you develop discipline, consistency, and perseverance, growing more responsible for the life God has given you.

I have read the Lighthouse Commitment, and by signing it, I am stating that I desire to live by it as a resident of the home. I know and understand that I am committing to participating as defined in this document. I know that at NCM, there are staff, volunteers, and community supports that will help me in my daily life and to reach my goals. I also know that if I do not follow through with the expectations in this commitment, I will be saying that my desires in life have changed and I may be asked to move out of the Lighthouse. The decision of the Director is final.

Name (Print): _____

Name (Signature): _____ **Date:** ____ / ____ / _____