

# **Stone Curves Cohousing Neighborhood's Basic Values**

## **Honesty & Trust**

We act with openness and honesty and have the courage and trust to speak up when something concerns us.

## **Cooperation**

Through acceptance, generosity, and sharing, we live collaboratively with one another. When making community-wide decisions, we place the interests of the whole neighborhood and its residents ahead of our own self-interest.

## **Commitment**

We are committed to the vision of living collaboratively in a cohousing neighborhood. We are committed to listening respectfully to one another and honoring other points of view.

## **Support**

The community encourages friendship and camaraderie.

## **Respect**

We respect the freedom of each person to live as he/she chooses as long as it doesn't interfere with others. We respect personal privacy. We respect diversity of interests, talents, beliefs, opinions, race, age, income, and spirituality.

## **Equality**

We value every member equally.

## **Safety**

Our neighborhood is a safe place—physically, emotionally, spiritually.

## **Balance**

We believe in the balance between a personal and a community life.

## **Responsibility**

Each of us takes responsibility for our actions, reactions, and feelings.

# An Agreement to Fellow Neighbors

I have become a member of the **STONE CURVES Cohousing Neighborhood**, and in so doing, commit myself to the following statements:

1. I'll do my best to communicate with integrity, and with compassion for self and others.
2. I agree to the basic tenets of our neighborhood's life.
  - We will maintain our neighborhood ourselves through self-management by all resident households.
  - While we recognize that living in community places some additional demands on the members, we also recognize that we choose community because of the benefits it offers. We strive to minimize the demand placed on members in terms of time, money, or energy.
  - Because of the trust we have for each other to act responsibly, we enact minimal rules and rely instead upon open communication and the spirit of collaboration to ensure that we deal with neighbors fairly and respectfully.
  - Although children may not have the same rights and responsibilities as adults, as equally valued members of the community, they are represented in all decision-making.
  - Each household is a financially independent entity, responsible for paying their own expenses and share of the Home Owner's Association dues.
  - Domestic animals are welcome so long as they have minimal adverse impact on the community and the environment.
3. I'll fully consider the best interests of the entire neighborhood as I consider decisions.
4. I agree that consensus with the participation of all concerned is the most valid basis for action in our neighborhood.
5. I'll share power and responsibility with all members.
6. I'll honor each member, and acknowledge that everyone, including myself, is making the best possible choice or decision we are capable of at that moment.
7. I'll be as aware of conflict as I can be, and take problems and complaints to the person(s) with whom I can resolve them at the earliest opportunity.
8. I'll appreciate the efforts of others and of myself in the community.

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