

# **Hospitality Code**

### 1. It's nice to hear your name,

so learn the names of our guests.

### 2. Labeling people creates invisible barriers.

Remember that guests are guests, not "the homeless." Labeling – whether spoken, or printed on a posted sign, creates division and can foster an "us" and "them" syndrome.

3. **Personal questions can be tough to answer,** so don't put guests' situations. If guests need to talk, give them the chance, but don't pry.

### 4. Never assume that a guest can't hear you.

Do not discuss guests' situations with other people. Respect their privacy.

### 5. Everyone can use a little privacy.

Our houses of worship become temporary homes for our guests. Knock before entering the guest's room.

# 6. Sometimes we need to spend time alone.

Respect guests' needs for quiet times alone or with family.

### 7. We all have bad days.

Depression, sadness, and hopelessness may come. Allow guests the space to deal with their emotions. Be prepared to forgive outbursts without judging guests ungrateful.

#### 8. We understand and care for our children.

Allow guests to do the same. Avoid contradicting guests' instructions to their children. Always ask parents' permission before giving things to children.

#### 9. Parents need a break.

Offer to tutor, play with, and plan activities for interested children while their parents take a break.

## 10. Adult guests should be treated like adults.

Although our guests are in situations that may make them temporarily dependent on others, remember that they are adults who are capable of making their own decisions.