



The Ark Dothan

WWW.THEARKDOTHAN.ORG | 334-794-7223 | 475 WEST MAIN ST., DOTHAN AL 36301



Ark Discipleship / Transitional Program Description

The Ark is a minimum 12-month, Christian based, Transformational Discipleship program that teaches Christian principles and life transformation by the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our goal is to introduce a resident into a relationship with Christ or to spiritually develop an existing relationship. The candidate does not have to be a Christian to get into the program; however, the entire program is based on a Christian worldview and philosophy. All residents, regardless of religion or beliefs, will be required to complete all components of this Christian program to advance or complete.

In addition to enhancing a resident's relationship with Christ, each resident should expect the following upon admission:

- Earn a GED (if applicable)
- Career planning
- Budgeting planning
- Lay ministry training
- Obtain driver's license
- Gain employment (once resident has met eligibility requirements)
- Start school, college classes, or vocational training
- Upon completion of Tier 2, residents will have a mentor assigned.
- Residents will receive regular, Christian based mental health counseling.
- Residents are required to complete daily work assignments, both in and out of class.
- Residents will be required to complete low level to high level physical work assignments to help cover the cost of the program.

The resident is not eligible for employment and may not have any income until he or she has completed Tier 1 and earned a GED (if applicable). The resident may be assigned to perform physically challenging tasks. The Ark will provide room, board, and all necessities during Tier 1 for no cost (Unless the resident has income such as SSI, retirement, disability, etc. Then the resident will pay \$432 per month in program fees.) Once a resident has completed Tier 1, they must gain employment within 30 days and start paying \$432 in monthly program fees. No resident may use drugs or alcohol on or off premises while in the program. Random drug test and search of property will be administered as needed.

Once a resident has been admitted into the Ark, the following is what he or she should expect:

Week 1 begins on the resident's first day of Discipleship Class. A new Discipleship Class starts every 7 weeks. A resident is considered to be in Week 0 from the time they are admitted until their first day of Discipleship Class. Week 0 could range from 1-7 weeks depending on when the resident is admitted.

Tier One

Week 0:

- The resident will be issued a bed and have a needs assessment completed. The resident will then be given clothing and all needed toiletries.
- The resident will be issued an Ark ID that must be worn at all times.
- The resident will register with local parole officer (if applicable).
- The resident will complete an orientation class.
- The resident will receive a counseling assessment and set up counseling appointments.
- The resident will get state issued ID (if transitioning out of prison).
- The resident will complete a Vision / Goal Statement.
- The resident will complete a fine / child support assessment.
- The resident will register at the Alfred Saliba Career Development Center.
- The resident will start literacy / GED classes (if applicable).
- The resident will complete skills assessment / aptitude testing.
- The resident will participate in Victorious Overcomers Substance Abuse Classes (6-month program, which meets every Tuesday evening).
- The resident will attend Harbor Worship and Bible study classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- The resident will assist with at least one street ministry outreach per month with Harbor Staff.
- The resident will attend chapel daily and attend all teaching classes.
- The resident will be scheduled to work / service assignments each day. These assignments help cover the cost of residents in the program.
- The resident is required to attend church services on Sunday morning.

Week 1 – Week 10:

- The resident will participate and complete all work and assignments in Discipleship Class.
- The resident will participate in Victorious Overcomers Substance Abuse Classes.
- The resident will attend Harbor Worship and Bible study classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- The resident will assist with at least one street ministry outreach per month with Harbor Staff.
- The resident will attend chapel daily and attend all teaching classes.
- The resident will be scheduled to work / service assignments each day.
- The resident will attend literacy / GED classes as assigned (if applicable).
- The resident will attend counseling sessions as assigned.
- The resident will meet monthly with leadership to go over monthly evaluations.

Week 11:

- The resident will participate and complete all work and assignments in Discipleship Class.
- The resident will participate in Victorious Overcomers Substance Abuse Classes.
- The resident will attend Harbor Worship and Bible study classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- The resident will assist with at least one street ministry outreach per month with Harbor Staff.
- The resident will attend chapel daily and attend all teaching classes.
- The resident will be scheduled to work / service assignments each day.
- The resident will attend literacy / GED classes as assigned (if applicable).
- The resident will attend counseling sessions as assigned.

- The resident will meet monthly with leadership to go over monthly evaluations.
- The resident will receive a medical profile (if applicable).*
- The resident will apply for a birth certificate (if applicable).*

Week 12:

- The resident will participate and complete all work and assignments in Discipleship Class.
- The resident will participate in Victorious Overcomers Substance Abuse Classes.
- The resident will attend Harbor Worship and Bible study classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- The resident will assist with at least one street ministry outreach per month with Harbor Staff.
- The resident will attend chapel daily and attend all teaching classes.
- The resident will be scheduled to work / service assignments each day.
- The resident will attend literacy / GED classes as assigned (if applicable).
- The resident will attend counseling sessions as assigned.
- The resident will meet monthly with leadership to go over monthly evaluations.
- The resident will be taught resume building and interview skills.

Week 13 – Week 16:

- The resident will participate and complete all work and assignments in Discipleship Class.
- The resident will participate in Victorious Overcomers Substance Abuse Classes.
- The resident will attend Harbor Worship and Bible study classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- The resident will assist with at least one street ministry outreach per month with Harbor Staff.
- The resident will attend chapel daily and attend all teaching classes.
- The resident will be scheduled to work / service assignments each day.
- The resident will attend literacy / GED classes as assigned (if applicable).
- The resident will attend counseling sessions as assigned.
- The resident will meet monthly with leadership to go over monthly evaluations.
- The resident will take Resume Building and How to Interview classes.
- The resident will meet with a Harbor staff member to begin application to the Harbor Life Program.
- Resident will complete resume.
- Resident will begin to fill out applications for employment and begin interviews**
- Resident will open bank account.

*These documents will only be granted if they are needed and have been approved by staff.

**As long as resident has met all qualifications and has been cleared by staff to be employed.

Tier 2

Week 13-16 Harbor Life Transition

This time will serve both Ark residents and Harbor staff as an evaluation period. During this time, Ark residents must prayerfully decide if they wish to participate in the Harbor Life Mentor Program. This period will also allow Harbor and Ark Staff to evaluate and advise potential program candidates. During this time, Harbor Staff will begin to prayerfully identify and discern each candidate's program readiness. Ark residents will begin weekly scheduled meetings with Joel Williams or another specified Harbor Representative on Week 13 to begin this process. If an Ark resident is accepted into the Harbor Life program, they will be provided with a Spiritual Mentor by the end of Week 16.

Week 17 – Week 69:

- Residents are expected to be a positive example for men and women in Tier 1.
- Participants in the Harbor Life Program will begin to meet with their provided Spiritual Mentor on Week 17.
- Harbor Life participants will meet with their Spiritual Mentor on a weekly basis for the first 26 weeks of Tier 2.
- Program participants will be responsible for coordinating and scheduling these meetings with their Mentor. Ark and Harbor staff members will not assist in this scheduling process. Beginning in Week 27 of Tier 2, program participants will meet with their Spiritual Mentors on a bi-weekly basis. Again, program participants will be responsible for coordinating and scheduling these meeting times. While with Spiritual Mentors, Harbor Life participants will work through the FOLLOW curriculum as provided by the Harbor.
- All Ark residents will meet with Harbor Staff member, Joel Williams or another specified Harbor Representative on a weekly basis. These meetings will take place at the Ark and will be scheduled by the Ark.
- While meeting with both a Spiritual Mentor and Joel Williams or another specified Harbor Representative, Ark residents will work toward:
 - Continuing to identify and define areas of personal and spiritual need.
 - Identifying and developing spiritual giftings.
 - Beginning / developing the practice of spiritual disciplines.
 - Planning for the future; setting short-term and long-term goals; responding to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____