



Micro-Community Program at Pres House Apartments

You are invited to make your living experience more meaningful as part of a micro-community at Pres House Apartments! Pres House Apartments, located in the heart of the UW Madison campus, is home to approximately 240 residents from diverse backgrounds. Pres House Apartments is owned by the Presbyterian Student Center Foundation. It is our hope to provide high quality housing that supports residents' well-being.

Purpose:

The Micro-Community program provides support for residents to develop and experience intentional and purposeful living organized around a meaningful focus. Groups of residents propose, plan, and lead the activities outlined in their grant application. Each participant is eligible to receive a rent credit scholarship.

Micro-Community Focus Ideas:

The following list gives examples of projects residents have or could undertake; this list is not exhaustive and your own ideas are encouraged.

- A group focused on promoting global citizenship through appreciation of cultures, global economic and environmental realities, and cross-cultural communication.
- A group whose members live together and explore social topics in light of personal values and commitments.
- A group focused on learning and doing something about a pressing issue such as human trafficking, the incarceration industry, climate change, or homelessness.
- A group committed to encouraging healthy habits that promote wellness for themselves and among Pres House residents.
- Your own idea of a living/learning/service community that develops deep and meaningful relationships within the group and meets a need on campus, in the wider community, or in the world (eg: refugee resettlement).

Support from Pres House:

Participants in the Micro-Community will receive a rent credit scholarship from the Presbyterian Student Center Foundation (up to \$75/participant per month). The Coordinator of Residential Programs (CRP) will be available for consultation and support, although the responsibility for the community and its programs will be primarily in the hands of the group itself. As part of its proposal a group may request up to an additional \$300-500 of program support funds for travel, supplies, special meals, speaker fees, or other program expenses. Each group member must participate in all aspects of the proposed program in order to receive the rent credit scholarship throughout the year.

How to apply:

Applications are available beginning October 1st. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with 3-4 projects being funded in a typical year. Interviews will be conducted as applications are received. Those who are interested in another scholarship program may apply for both programs and placement in another scholarship program will be held until a decision is made about the micro-community application. Residents cannot be a part of two scholarship programs at the same time, except in special circumstances. Every micro-community group member must sign a lease in Pres House Apartments. Lease application must be done separately from applying to be a Micro-Community.

Make-up of an intentional community group:

Groups may be from 4 to 8 people in size. Group members typically live in a shared apartment, although they can include 1-2 members living in another Pres House Apartment unit. All group members must live at Pres House Apartments. **You may sign a group lease or individual leases in advance of being accepted as a micro-community as long as you understand that there is no guarantee your micro-community application will be approved.** You can make your group open to additional members if you should choose to do so (for example: 4 people apply for the scholarship and are open to 2-4 more people joining the micro-community for the same purpose).

The ideal Micro-Community proposal will:

- State a clear and meaningful purpose for the micro-community being proposed.
- Include programs and activities that will:
 1. develop community among micro-community residents;
 2. provide opportunities for others living in the Pres House Apartments to engage in your interest and/or project;
 3. educate, engage, inspire or meet some need of the campus and/or surrounding community.
- Be clearly thought out and well-articulated. The complete proposal should be longer than two pages, but no more than 10 pages.
- Include a comprehensive budget for planning purposes.
- Include a plan to evaluate and report on the progress of the micro-community.
- Demonstrate that the group has sufficient interpersonal resources and knowledge to carry out plans needed for the proposal.
- Identify how micro-community will structure leadership and group expectations/accountability.



Resident Micro-Community Grant Application

Submit to: Rebecca Bedell, Coordinator of Residential Programs
2nd floor office, Pres House Apartments
rebecca@preshouse.org

Title of Micro-Community:

Primary Resident Contact:

I. PEOPLE

Participants:

Name	Phone	Email

*All micro-community members must sign and abide by a Pres House Apartment lease

Are you open to having additional interested residents join your micro-community should your proposal be accepted?

Yes: _____ **No:** _____

II. PURPOSE

A. Overview of Goals:

Describe your purpose by answering the following questions in a separate document.

1. What is the primary topic or focus for your group? Why do you think this focus is important or will make a difference to you or others? Ideally address each of the following:
 - a. How will this project build community among your members?
 - b. How will this project engage with, or include, the broader PH Apartments community?
 - c. How will this project educate / inspire / address some need in the UW, Madison, national or global community?
2. What are the goals of your micro-community project?
3. How will you organize your project and work together to get things done? What process has the group identified to distribute leadership and planning for program activities?
4. What mechanisms do you envision for holding individuals accountable to their commitments?
5. How do you propose evaluating the effectiveness of your micro-community project and reporting on progress throughout the year?
6. Do you anticipate any expenses associated with the project beyond those in the budget section below? If so, how will you pay for those activities?
7. Are there any local, UW-Madison or student organizations you anticipate working with to implement your project?

B. Specific Events, Activities and Programming in the Micro-Community: Include all activities you are planning. Include activities your micro-community members will do together and at least one event your group will plan and host for Pres House Apartment residents. Group may plan activities together that include meals, hosting guest speakers, attending forums/lectures/films, trips and field trips, etc.

You have some freedom to adjust your planned activities later as new opportunities or ideas for events arise, but use this chance to write up a plan to make sure you are prepared. Use additional pages if necessary.

Fall (August - December):

Spring (January - May):

Summer (June - July, optional):

III. STAFF RESOURCES

A. What support do you anticipate wanting/needing from Pres House Apartments program staff? (I.e. room reservations, budget support, advertising events, program evaluation strategies, etc.)

IV. BUDGET

A. **Rent reduction.** All micro-community members receive a rent scholarship applied to their lease (individual or group). This scholarship is typically \$55-\$75 per month per participant, contingent upon Pres House Apartments funding and the number of micro-communities being funded. For the purposes of this budgeting table, assume a \$55/month scholarship.

Name	Standard Rent	Rent with \$55 / month Scholarship
TOTAL		

B. **Other.** Identify specific expenditures for which you are requesting coverage, including the estimated amount and rationale.

Expense/Program/Activity/Etc.	Cost
TOTAL	