

Membership

Your Policy should reflect the 3 basic kinds of membership issues:

How to join - the joining process- trial period? Agreement on documents?

How to leave - the exiting process- What do you get, how long before you get it, etc.

Types of members - renters, children, unit holders, guests, caregivers, etc.

- * Balance between individual/family needs and those of the community

- * Address the timing issues of giving notice and payout times

- * Options for pay out of leaving members

“We feel that such a well informed understanding of our community is the necessary and appropriate foundation upon which to decide if Heartwood is right for you, and if you are right for Heartwood.”

Shauns example: Your parents move in. They use all of the common amenities. They will be staying indefinitely. Must they participate? Must they become members? Must they pay? etc.

Here is an example from an existing community:

“Exemptions to Standard Membership Requirements

- **Guest:** Someone who intends to live here for less than 90 days. (Note: A renter is someone who intends to live here for more than 90 days, regardless of whether or not any money is paid. Renters are required to become members.)
- **Caregiver:** Someone whose primary reason for living here is to care for the health of an ailing member or provide assisted living care for a member (including a live-in nanny providing childcare).
- **Care Recipient:** Someone who is ailing and whose primary reason for living here is to be cared for by a member.
- **Children:** Someone less than 18 years old. Children of members are eligible to become members when they reach 18, although they may choose not to become members until they are 24 years old. Upon reaching 24, however, they are required to become members.”

Some types of members:

Guests

Children

Individual Unit holders

Couple unit holders

Renters

Caregivers

Care recipient

What are their rights and responsibilities?

Question: Do guests have to pay? How long can they stay? Do they have to participate?

Examples for joining from other existing communities:

Must have attended at least two workbees

Must meet with two members

Must have read certain documents

Must have their down payment ready

Must spend six months as a trial

Must read certain books or manifestos