



Policy Name  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE USE (Residents, Family Members and Visitors)</b></p>	Policy Number: <p style="text-align: center;"><b>0932</b></p>
Approved By: <p style="text-align: center;">Management</p>	Effective Date: <p style="text-align: center;">September 1, 1996</p>
Classification: <p style="text-align: center;">Governance and Administration</p>	Date Revised: <p style="text-align: center;">April 7, 2010</p>

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide both a sense of “home-like setting” for residents and family members, as well as to ensure the safety and well-being of all those who come to Agapé.

**POLICY**

*Drugs*

The possession, use and/or trafficking of illicit drugs or unauthorized medications on the property of Agapé Hospice is not permitted.

*Smoking*

Smoking on the property of Agapé Hospice is only permitted for hospice residents, and only in designated space. See Policy 0970.

*Alcohol*

**AGAPÉ HOSPICE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RESTRICT THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN THE RESIDENT’S ROOM.**

Residents and their visitors may choose to consume alcohol in their own rooms. Alcohol consumption may not occur outside the resident’s room, however, Agapé Hospice reserves the right to restrict the consumption of alcohol. This is permitted as long as they provide their own alcohol and as long as the activity does not disturb the peace or comfort of others at Agapé - other hospice residents, family members and staff.

No staff at Agapé will facilitate the administration of alcoholic beverages to a resident without a physician’s order. With a physician’s order, only the RN’s may perform this task.

Under no circumstances will Agapé Hospice fund the cost of alcoholic beverages for use at the hospice, nor will staff members.

Under no circumstances will the consumption of alcohol in the guest suite be tolerated.

The state of a resident, family member or visitor being inebriated is determined by *staff*, and will not be tolerated.



Policy Name

**ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE USE  
(Residents, Family Members and Visitors)**

Policy Number:

**0932**

Page No:

Page 2 of 2

**PROCEDURE**

1. If a resident requires or requests alcohol, he/she or their family will be required to provide it.
2. In a situation of suspected or obvious inebriation, an Agapé hospice staff member will:
  - a. Get a second opinion from another staff member;
  - b. Notify the manager-on-call.
  - c. Advise the resident, family member or visitor of the concern and Agapé policy;

If the situation involves the disturbing of the peace, violation of the Criminal Code and/or a safety risk for the inebriated individual and/or others, the staff member(s) will:

- a. Call hospital security; or
- b. Call 911.

**NOTE:** If family members/friends are leaving the hospice in a state of inebriation, offer to call a taxi on their behalf<sup>1</sup> and at their expense.

3. Follow up from the immediate incident will involve:
  - a. Notation in the resident's progress notes;
  - b. A meeting with the resident/family members with Agapé's Clinical Care Coordinator and/or Director of Resident Care;
4. Subsequent failure to comply with Agapé policy may lead to:
  - a. A meeting with the Executive Director;
  - b. The privilege of coming to Agapé being revoked (for visitors);
  - c. Discharge of the resident from Agapé Hospice.

---

<sup>1</sup> As per the guidelines of the Calgary Police Service, 2010.