

Oxford House, Inc.

Annual Report

Fiscal Year

2005

Theme of the Seventh Oxford House World Convention:

Family, Fellowship, Freedom

Oxford House, Inc.

1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

About Oxford House, Inc.

Oxford House, Inc. Board Members

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Oxford House, Inc. is the twenty-nine year old Delaware nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation that serves as the umbrella organization of the worldwide network of more than 1,100 individual Oxford Houses. Its central office is located at 1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 400, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

Oxford House™ is a concept and system of operations based on the experience of recovering alcoholics and drug addicts who learned that behavior change is essential for recovery from alcoholism and drug addiction. They also learned that Oxford House provided the living environment that could help them become comfortable enough with abstinent behavior to stay clean and sober without relapse.

The Oxford House Manual® is the basic blueprint that provides the organization and structure that permit groups of recovering individuals to successfully live together in a supportive environment. All Oxford Houses are rented ordinary single-family houses in good neighborhoods. There are Oxford Houses for men and Oxford Houses for women but there are no co-ed houses. The average number of residents per house is about eight with a range per house of six to sixteen.

Oxford House works because it: (1) imposes no time limit on how long a resident can live in an Oxford House, (2) follows a democratic system of operation, (3) utilizes self-support to pay all the household expenses, and (4) adheres to the absolute requirement that any resident who returns to using alcohol or drugs must be immediately expelled. Oxford House provides the missing elements needed by most alcoholics and drug addicts to develop behavior to assure total abstinence. It provides the time, peer support and structured living environment necessary for long-term behavior change to take hold.

Individuals living in an Oxford House learn or relearn values and responsible behavior, and slowly but surely develop long-term behavior that assures comfortable sobriety – forever. Some individuals live in Oxford Houses a few months, others for many years. Together, these individuals develop each Oxford House into a place where residents can learn to live a responsible life without the use of alcohol and drugs. The theme of the 7th World Convention in Alexandria, Virginia, in October 2005 – Family, Fellowship and Freedom – sums up the outcome for thousands of recovering individuals lucky enough to get into an Oxford House.

More than 1,100 individual Oxford Houses follow the three goals of Oxford House - Recovery, Responsibility, Replication – year after year. FY 2005 marked another successful chapter toward the Oxford House goal of providing enough houses for every alcoholic and drug addict to have the opportunity to achieve recovery without relapse.

Silver Spring, Maryland
March 2006

* Resident or Alumni member

The Individual Oxford House

Structured, Cost-Effective, Proven

You can visit any one of the more than 1,100 Oxford Houses and immediately know where you are. Unlike McDonalds, Oxford Houses do not have a large sign or “golden arches” in front of each house. But, like McDonalds, each Oxford House follows a standard set of practices and procedures. Each Oxford House has a charter from Oxford House, Inc. The Oxford House Charter has three clearly defined conditions:

- Each house must be democratically self-run,
- Each house must be financially self-supported, and
- Each house must immediately expel any resident who returns to using alcohol or drugs.

Chartering is a two-step process: a six-month temporary charter followed by a permanent charter if the group learns the Oxford system of operation. During the six-month conditional phase, a new house must demonstrate that it has learned the Oxford House system of operation. If it has not, it is not given a permanent charter. The permanent charter has the same three conditions and any house that does not follow the Oxford system of operation loses its charter.

Teaching the Oxford House system of operation is fundamental to Oxford House success. The Oxford House World Council - made up of leaders elected by houses and Oxford House alumni – focuses on the development of policy, workshops and mutual support among individual houses to provide on-going teaching of the Oxford House system of operation. The Oxford House World Services Office – the professional staff operating under the direction of the Oxford House, Inc. – provides service to all Oxford House entities – houses, chapters, state associations and the annual Oxford House World Convention. It also is the official connection of Oxford House with government agencies, treatment providers, courts, the press and the recovery community as a whole.

Oxford House outreach workers trained by Oxford House World Service or housing committees of chapters of existing Oxford Houses are best able to start new Oxford Houses. The cost of finding a house to rent, getting suitable residents to live in the house and training the new residents the system of operations averages about \$30,000 a house. Once a house is established the residents equally share all household expenses. This self-support feature of Oxford House makes the program very cost-effective. In the year 2003 Oxford House residents paid in aggregate rent and household expenses of \$35,390,940.

Not only do the Oxford House residents pay their own living expenses but they also manage the operation of their own Oxford House. They hold weekly house meetings and elect officers from among house residents. No officer can hold the same office for more than six months. Each officer has specific duties and, by following the prescribed procedures for handling money and conducting weekly business meetings and applicant interviews, Oxford Houses stay on track.

President

- Leads Weekly Meeting
- Provides Overall Leadership
- Attends Chapter Meetings
- Co-signs Checks

Secretary

- Takes Meeting Notes
- Contacts Treatment Providers
- Notifies House Applicants
- Submits Reports to OHI

Treasurer

- Keeps Checkbook
- Pays House bills
- Co-signs checks

Comptroller

- Collects Weekly Rent
- Audits Treasurer's Books
- Posts weekly payments

Coordinator

- Supervises Household Chores
- Buys House Supplies
- Reports to meeting on chores
- Enforces fire safety practices

Good Houses in Good Neighborhoods

Oxford Houses are rented single-family homes in good neighborhoods. The house should have at least 4 bedrooms and two baths. The best size group is 8 to 12 and every group is limited to the same sex. There are no co-ed houses.

The Federal Fair Housing Act of 1988 prohibits discrimination against recovering alcoholics and drug addicts living together in a single-family neighborhood. This protection is important because recovering individuals are good neighbors and the location of the house in a good neighborhood contributes to the success of recovery without relapse



Oxford House-Hilltop in Cherry Hill, New Jersey is a house for eight men. The house was established June 1990 and by June 2003 had helped more than 143 master recovery. Early in its existence the house won a zoning case to assure that Oxford Houses could be located in a family neighborhood.

Oxford Highlights

- **9,151 – Number of Oxford Recovery Beds**
- **1,122 – Number of Oxford Houses as of March 2006**
- **41 – Number of States having Oxford House**
- **278 – Number of cities having Oxford Houses**
- **\$1,402 – average monthly income of individuals living in Oxford Houses June 2004**

Oxford House Resident Profile¹

Number of Women's Houses:	255	No. of Women Residents:	2,091
Number of Houses For Men:	861	No. of Men Residents:	7,060
Global Network of Houses:	1,122	Total Number of Residents:	9,151
Number of States with Houses:	41	Cities with Houses:	278
Average Cost Per Person Per Week:	\$89.75	Rent Per Group Per Month:	\$1,350
Residents Working 6/15/02:	91%	Average Monthly Earnings:	\$1,402
Percent Addicted To Drugs or Drugs and Alcohol:	71%	Percent Addicted to Alcohol only:	29%
Race --		Marital Status --	
White;	59%	Never Married	45%
Black;	29%	Separated	18%
Hispanic	4%	Divorced	32%
Other ²	8%	Married	4%
		Widowed	.1%
Prior Homelessness:	54%	Average Time Homeless:	6 Mos.
Prior Jail:	76%	Average Jail Time:	13 Mo
Average AA or NA Meetings Per Week Per Resident:	5.1	Percent Going To Counseling <u>and</u> AA or NA:	41%
Average Length of Sobriety of House Residents:	13.5 Mos.	Residents Expelled Because of Relapse:	19.1%
Average Length of Stay In An Oxford House:	13.1 Mos.	Average No. of Applicants For Each Vacant Bed:	3.3

- **\$89.75 – average weekly share of expenses paid by Oxford House residents**
- **54% of Oxford House residents had been homeless for an average of 6 months**
- **71% have been addicted to drugs in addition of alcohol**
- **76% had done jail time because of crime connected with their addiction**
- **80.9% lived in an Oxford House without relapse**
- **13.5 months – average length of sobriety among Oxford house residents**
- **3.3 – Number of newly recovering individuals who applied for each vacancy in 2005**

¹ As of June 30, 2005 or March 1, 2006 based on standard OHI survey and house reports.

² Other includes Native American, Asian, Pacific Islander and Hawaiian.

***Oxford House World Convention
October 13-16, 2005
Alexandria Hilton Hotel
“Family, Fellowship, Freedom”***

The Oxford House World Convention was a great success. More than 400 Oxford House residents and alumni came to the Alexandria Hilton in Alexandria, Virginia to participate in the 7th Annual Oxford House World Convention. Residents and alumni from 37 states and two foreign countries learned how to make Oxford House a stronger resource for lifetime recovery without relapse. The theme – Family•Fellowship•Freedom – started with dictionary definitions and generated twenty panel discussions showing how Oxford House living fulfills the goal of sobriety without relapse.

- ◆ **Family** - “a) A fundamental social group in society typically consisting of one or two parents and their children; b) Two or more people who share goals and values, have long-term commitments to one another, and reside usually in the same dwelling place.”

- ◆ **Fellowship** - “A community of interest, activity, feeling or experience or a company of equals or friends.”

- ◆ **Freedom** - “The quality of being free: as a) the absence of necessity, coercion, or constraint in choice of action; b) liberation from slavery or the power of another or independence from addiction.”

Twenty-breakout panels during the convention focused on the ways that recovery from addiction to alcoholism and/or drug addiction can be overcome by living in an Oxford House. The General Sessions tied the theme together and included a keynote address by John Walters, Director of the President’s Office on National Drug Control Policy. Walters, who had addressed two prior conventions, complimented the Oxford House residents and alumni on their accomplishments in making Oxford House the leader in assuring recovery without relapse. He called upon the convention to continue expansion so that more individuals in recovery would be able to benefit from the disciplined, open-ended system of self-run supported operations of an Oxford House.

Spreading the Good News



Oxford House World Services publishes a number of pamphlets, forms and booklets and videos to describe how Oxford House works. In addition, it maintains a comprehensive web page, www.oxfordhouse.org and trains and manages outreach workers to provide on-site development of new Oxford Houses.

Oxford House, Inc. – the umbrella organization for all individual Oxford Houses – is financed by grants, contributions, and contracts. Over the long run, the World Services Organization will require subsidy from an endowment in order to continue expansion and to provide adequate supervision of an ever-growing network of individual houses.

Oxford House Tradition One

Oxford House has as its primary goal the provision of housing for the alcohol and drug addict who wants to stay clean and sober.

Of the nine Oxford House traditions the first one states most concisely the sole purpose of Oxford House. The theme of the 5th World Convention – *Recovery • Responsibility • Replication* – captures the long-term mission of the entire Oxford House family. *Recovery* is the process by which addicted individuals become free of addiction for the rest of their lives. *Responsibility* is the means by which an individual gradually assumes control over his or her lifestyle so that choices can be consistently made to avoid the use of alcohol or drugs. *Replication* is the means through which addicted individuals living in an Oxford House™ share their newfound lifestyle of living in a supportive, alcohol and drug-free environment with other individuals wanting comfortable sobriety by starting new Oxford Houses to give other recovering individuals a real opportunity to achieve recovery without relapse.

Since no one believes that alcoholism and drug addiction will magically disappear from the face of the earth, Oxford House residents and alumni realize that the organization must prepare to continue its expansion and outreach efforts in perpetuity. Contributions by individual houses, contracts and grants will always be the main sources of support to continue expansion. However, establishment of an endowment fund – similar to college endowment funds – can produce the necessary income to assure continue expansion and service to existing houses over the long run.

The 5th Annual Convention's primary resolution had directed the management of Oxford House, Inc. to establish an endowment fund as an entity separate from the organization itself. The separate entity is required in order to preserve the successful tradition of making certain that Oxford House, Inc. does not own property or other assets that might divert its mission from *recovery, responsibility and replication*. The 7th World Convention ratified the goal of seeking long-term financial support.

7th World Convention in Alexandria

Each year Oxford House residents and alumni from all over the country get together to participate in a three or four day annual convention. The first world convention was held in Washington, D.C. in 1999; the second in Kansas City, Missouri in 2000, and then back to Washington, D.C. in 2001. In 2002 a three-day convention was held in Bellevue, Washington just outside Seattle and in 2003 it returned to Washington, DC at the Omni-Shoreham Hotel.



Participants of the 7th Oxford House World Convention in General Session at the Alexandria Hilton Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia.

The 2004 Convention met at the Hyatt Regency in San Antonio, Texas. The 2005 Convention was back in the Washington, D.C. area at the Hilton Alexandria. As with other Oxford House World Conventions the convention ran from Thursday afternoon through Sunday morning.

Keynoter on Friday Afternoon



John Walters, the Federal Drug Czar, addressing the convention attendees at the Second General Session of the 7th Annual Oxford House World Convention

The annual convention is the one event where all Oxford Houses and alumni are represented and vote on resolutions binding the entire organization. The format of the annual convention has become established over a period of six years. Residents and alumni from around the world attend in order to renew friendships and to establish policy for Oxford House overall.

Resolutions Adopted

The only resolution adopted by the 7th World Convention related to the provision at least 10 months advance notice to all the houses concerning the location and costs for future annual conventions. The World Council suggested the resolution in order to give more individuals an opportunity to attend the convention.

The convention for 2006 was awarded to Wichita, Kansas. The convention attendees from Kansas made a persuasive presentation and won out over the Illinois group that lobbied for a convention in Chicago.

Once again the convention rejected a proposal to allow individuals on methadone to live in Oxford Houses. The vote was 363 against and 4 in favor of the resolution. The consensus of the group was that the alcohol and drug-free nature of Oxford House was too important to compromise.

The World Council also urged all house to send voluntary contributions to Oxford House, Inc. to enable it to expand the national network of Oxford Houses to areas of the country without them. More than 100 houses during FY 2005 made contributions of \$50 a month. This fund enabled Oxford House World Services to start houses in Alaska, Vermont and New Hampshire. In the long run the self-help nature of Oxford House will enable the organization to fulfill its mission of providing safe, recovery housing for all who need it. Everyone agreed that while Oxford House has come a long way there is much more to be done.

□□□

Seventh Annual Convention Highlights



Ron Blake at Convention representing the Oxford Houses in Australia speaking from the podium while Paul Molloy sits and listens.



Joe Chavez [HI] and Antonio Russell [NC] on a breakout panel discussing how Oxford Houses work with drug courts throughout the country.



Dr. Leonard Jason and his DePaul University [Chicago] research group discussing their major findings from the NIAAA and NIDA funded research of Oxford House residents. Among other significant findings is the finding that between 65% and 87% of Oxford House residents stayed clean and sober without relapses for two years or more. The Convention attendees heard verification that recovery without relapse is the norm for Oxford House residents.

Family•Fellowship•Freedom -
7th Annual World Convention Theme



Washington State Oxford House residents did a booming business raffling off a paid week-long vacation in Hawaii.



Mollie Brown checking out the lunch break food court set up for the convention by the Hilton.



Mekeba Casey [NC alumni] giving a speech as a candidate for World Council. When the convention attendees voted Mekeba was elected for a three year term on the World Council.



Marty Walker, outreach [LA], after receiving the annual Reggie Midget Award for his work during Katrina with the residents of the 40 houses in Louisiana.

Oxford House, Inc.
Statement of Financial Position
June 30, 2005³

ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 97,227
Accounts Receivable, Net	73,964
Litigation Receivable	0
Loans Receivable, current portion	4,077
Employee Advances	70
Prepaid Expenses	0
Total Current Assets	<u>175,338</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	
Furniture and Office Equipment	53,447
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(41,652)</u>
Net Property and Equipment	<u>11,795</u>
OTHER ASSETS	
Restricted Cash	31,539
Loans Receivable	11,895
Deposits	<u>2,975</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 233,522</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 47,671
Accrued Salaries	119,310
Litigation Accrual	0
Accrued Payroll Taxes	8,708
Deferred Revenue	59,025
Loans Payable to Officer	8,000
Current Portion of Long-term Debt	<u>5,702</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>248,416</u>
LONG TERM DEBT, NET	<u>1,571</u>
Total Liabilities	249,987
NET DEFICIT, Unrestricted	<u>(16,465)</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET DEFICIT	<u>\$ 233,522</u>

Statement of Activities

SUPPORT AND REVENUE	
Grants and Contracts	\$ 1,071,000
General Contributions	205,839
United Way Contributions	8,282
Convention Revenue	78,396
Litigation Settlement Income	29,496
Interest Income	470
Net Assets Reclassified from Restrictions	<u>0</u>
Total Support and Revenue	<u>1,393,483</u>
EXPENSES	
Program Services	
State and Local Program [Indirect Federal Funds]	1,043,349
State and Local House Program [Other]	246,840
Supporting Services	
Management and General	96,916
Fundraising	<u>341</u>
Total Expenses	<u>1,387,446</u>
INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	6,037
NET DEFICIT, Beginning of Year	<u>(22,502)</u>
NET DEFICIT, End of Year	<u>\$ (16,465)</u>

³ See notes accompanying financial statement at end of the Annual Report. See box at right for instructions on how to get full copy of audit by Robert Ben-Kori, CPA.

Oxford House, Inc.
FY 2004 Expenses
By Category and Function

Expense Item	State/Local House Program	Management And General	Total Expenses
Payroll	\$650,321	48,861	699,182
Payroll Taxes	53,445	4,292	57,737
Fringe Benefits	<u>98,769</u>	<u>4,947</u>	<u>103,716</u>
Total Personnel	802,535	58,100	860,635
Travel and Lodging	214,794	3,219 ⁴	218,013
Convention Expense	65,957		65,957
Telephone/Facsimile	53,500	3,145	56,645
Rent	58,293	953	59,246
Professional Fees	7,771	23,678	31,449
Postage and Courier	9,468	1,447 ⁵	10,915
Office Supplies	9,846	691	10,537
Depreciation	7,981	611	8,592
Insurance	4,772	340	5,112
Taxes and Licenses	1,315	375	1,690
Payroll Services	5,918	453	6,371
Repairs& Maintenance	4,272	327	4,599
Interest Expense	2,478	1,846	1,846
Outreach Program	37,943		37,943
Printing/Publications	3,029	136 ⁶	3,165
Bank Charges	132	535	667
Dues & Subscriptions		1,320	1,320
Miscellaneous	2,663	81	2,744
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,290,189</u>	<u>\$ 97,257⁷</u>	<u>\$1,387,446</u>

Individual Oxford Houses followed through on a resolution at the 1999 Oxford House World Convention to make voluntary contributions to Oxford House World Services for the purpose of defraying expansion and service expenses. During FY 2004 houses contributed over \$100,000.

The 2001 World Convention passed a resolution to earmark all house contributions in excess of \$200,000 a year for a national revolving loan fund to help start new Oxford Houses. Contributions from houses were about \$ 96,000 for FY 2004.

A full copy of the Oxford House, Inc. audit and IRS form 990 is available from Oxford House World Services. Telephone 301-587-2916 or e-mail Info@oxfordhouse.org to receive a copy of the audit.

⁴ Includes \$29 for fundraising.

⁵ Includes \$176 for fundraising.

⁶ Includes \$136 for fundraising.

⁷ Includes \$341 [total of three footnotes above] for fundraising added to Management and General category.

Oxford House™

1975-2006

31 Years of Organized Self-Help to Enable Alcoholics and Drug Addicts to Recover Without Relapse

- *Sole Authority for Oxford House Charters*
- *Providing Technical Assistance to Establish New Oxford Houses*
- *Providing Technical Assistance to Keep Existing Oxford Houses on Track*
- *Providing Organization of Chapters to Help Houses Help Themselves*
- *Providing the Time, Living Environment and Support to Enable Alcoholics and Drug Addicts to Recovery Without Relapse*
- *Providing the Legal, Philosophical, and Scientific Framework for a Cost-effective, Worldwide Network of Supportive Recovery Housing.*

Write or Call

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