



Tam House

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### **TAM HOUSE INFORMATION AND CRITERIA**

**TAM HOUSE** has low-cost rooms for single seniors (women and men 62 and over) in our two beautiful homes one block from downtown San Anselmo.

**AVAILABILITY:** Call or email for current openings.

**ROOMS:** These are small, bright and cheerful, private, unfurnished rooms (not apartments).

**WHY TAM HOUSE IS UNLIKE OTHER HOUSING OPTIONS:** Each and every Resident must be committed to cooperative, respectful, community living, enjoying other people and happily helping with light chores around the house, gardening, etc., taking the initiative to contribute to the common good of the household. Since we are not temporary or transitional housing and we are not assisted living, people choose Tam House to be a home they share for a long time.

**RENTS:** With a month-to-month lease, our rents start at around \$1000 (private bath is more). Utilities are included. Free Wi-Fi is available. Residents pay for their own phone and television (there are televisions in common areas of each house).

**MEALS:** Each resident participates in our shared meal program, paying an additional \$130 (about \$5/day!) for the evening chef-cooked community dinner plus breakfast foods (bread, eggs, cereal, juice, milk, tea, coffee, fruit). Residents pay for and prepare their own lunch.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** There is NO SMOKING, NO SUBSTANCE ABUSE, NO DRAMA and NO PETS on the property. There is no storage and street parking.

**RESIDENT CRITERIA:** Community living is not for everyone. We are very careful to screen every candidate. To be considered for Tam House a person must be fully committed to living respectfully in a shared household.

**APPLICATIONS:** If, after visiting the website and visiting the houses you feel you are a good candidate, you may submit an application (our interview process can take several

weeks). Qualified elders who are respectful, considerate, positive individuals, who are very clear about what makes Tam House different than other housing options, will be considered.

**TESTIMONIES:** One Resident said, "I call this 'home' - and I haven't used that word in a long time." A new Resident recently said, "This is the best meal I've ever had!" Another Resident said, "I LOVE it here. I wake up in the morning with a smile."

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:** Tam House is owned and operated by the Ross Valley Ecumenical Housing Association, a non-profit, non-sectarian agency serving Marin for over 30 years.

### **Tam House Resident Criteria**

Potential Tam House residents must meet the following criteria and if they do, are encouraged to move through the Application Process listed below.

- Have a household income at or below the "very low" income limit set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Currently the "very low" income limit for one person in Marin County is \$65,050.
- Have verifiable and stable financial ability to pay rent and meal costs. Minimum income for residents without a Section 8 voucher is \$1700 per month (see [www.tamhouse.org](http://www.tamhouse.org) for details).
- Be 62 years of age or older
- Have a willingness to commit to living amiably in a shared living environment and enjoy the company of others.
- Be a non-smoker with no substance abuse issues.
- Have no pets.
- Have a satisfactory credit report and no criminal history.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

#### ***Before You Apply***

- Thoroughly and carefully read all information and criteria, particularly our website: [www.tamhouse.org](http://www.tamhouse.org)
- Call or write to ask questions and to schedule a visit.
- **TO VISIT:** Call **415-457-5633** or email **tamhouse100@gmail.com** to schedule a visit (for privacy and security reasons, no one can "drop by" our houses).
- Arrive at the appointed time and tour the houses.
- Submit a completed application.

#### ***After You Apply***

***IF a room is available and you are considered a good candidate, you may be invited to:***

- Submit responses to a brief questionnaire.
- Interview with the Manager and Board Representatives.

***IF selected, you will be asked to:***

- Provide a copy of your social security card and valid photo identification.

- Give permission for a background check, including prior landlord, financial stability, and criminal history.
- Share a “Social Hour” and dinner with residents.
- Final mutual decision and lease signing.