

# STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY

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Living in a residence hall at The University of Tampa means living in a community of students. This community is a dynamic place composed of various people with different values, cultures, lifestyles, and attitudes. As members of the community we must strive to understand the individuality and life choices of those among us. We can best learn from one another in an atmosphere of positive encouragement and mutual respect. We must possess a genuine desire to learn from those around us as well as give others the respect and tolerance we desire. Each person has a role to play in our residence hall community and should be allowed to do so.

## EDUCATION

to ensure teaching and learning takes place outside the classroom;

## OPENNESS

so ideas and thoughts can be discussed freely;

## RESPECT

to ensure the individual is honored so diversity can be pursued;

## RESPONSIBILITY

so the individual accepts obligations to the community and is held accountable for individual actions;

## CARING

to ensure the individual's well-being is supported and community service is encouraged;

## INVOLVEMENT

so all individuals have a voice in decisions concerning their community;

## OWNERSHIP

to ensure all individuals care for their building facilities and adjacent property; and

## CELEBRATION

so The University of Tampa history, culture, and spirit is included and residence hall traditions are shared

### *Your rights in our community include:*

To read and study free from undue interference, unreasonable noise and other distractions inhibiting the exercise of this right; sleep without undue disturbance from noise and other distractions; have your personal belongings respected by others; have a clean environment in which to live; have free access to your room and to facilities provided in the residence hall; enjoy personal privacy within limits of the residential setting; host guests, with the expectation that you will explain accepted behavioral standards and that guests will respect the rights of your roommate(s) and fellow residents; consult Residence Life staff in settling conflicts; be free from fear of intimidation and physical or emotional harm; expect that these privileges will be respected.

### *Your responsibilities in our community include:*

To verbally express your views to the person(s) involved, should you feel your rights have been infringed upon; treat other residents with respect and consideration and guarantee them their individual rights; understand all policies and regulations necessary for the hall and University communities to function and to abide by those rules; be responsive to all reasonable requests of fellow residents; be cooperative in all dealings with residence hall staff members; accept responsibility for personal and community safety; refrain from misusing safety equipment, propping security doors open or losing or forgetting room keys; recognize that public areas and their furnishings belong to everyone and that abuse of these areas violates the rights of the community.

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**A community represents several different individuals existing interdependently.**

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