

Purple Family FAQs

1. How long will my family member be here?

The recovery process takes time. While the treatment plan is very specific and measurable, the amount of time that each individual takes to accomplish the goals of that plan is variable. The minimum recommended time to complete the program is 4 months. For most young adults, it takes 5 or 6 months and sometimes longer.

2. Do I have to do anything?

Participation by the family in the Family Program is critical to the successful completion of the program. Addiction is a family disease. Commitment and belief in the process is vitally important. If you aren't committed and trust the staff and the process, then neither will he.

3. How often can I speak with my family member?

During the first month of the process, keep communication with the client to a minimum – no more than 3 short phone calls per week. DO NOT visit for any reason unless the staff has approved the visit in advance.

4. Who at Purple do I contact with questions?

Senior staff members, Joel and Brett, handle communication with the family. That communication is best done at the FAMILY GROUP meeting, held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Most of your questions are general and can be answered during the course of the meeting. Other families usually have similar questions so it is helpful for everyone. Your specific questions can usually be answered before or after the meeting. The recovery process is slow and there is seldom a need for weekly progress reports.

5. Will there be any private family meetings with my family member and staff?

During the course of the process, we will schedule 2 or 3 family sessions to discuss progress and next steps. The first one will usually be about 4-6 weeks into the process, after the client has moved through the stabilization period.

6. What meetings will I be attending?

Family Meeting Schedule:

- a. **Families Anonymous Meeting** – 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month at 7 pm in Room 314 at the McKendree United Methodist Church, 1574 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30043
- b. **Purple Family Group** – 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 7 pm at Purple.
- c. **If you live outside of our area, please find a weekly meeting to attend:**
www.familiesanonymous.org

7. *My family member has a doctor/dentist appointment scheduled while he is at Purple. Will I need to reschedule?*

Our goal is to minimize disruptions to the recovery process and the routine schedule at Purple. However, if the client is on approved prescription medication, it is important that he continue to see his doctor. Please consult with Purple staff about appropriate appointment times. It is the responsibility of the client (and/or his family) to make the appointment and to be sure that he has transportation to the appointment. Any doctor or dentist visits that are not urgent should be postponed until after completion of the Purple program.

8. *My son did not finish high school. When will he be able to resume his education?*

We recognize that a high school diploma is critical to your son's success in the future. We also recognize that recovery has to be the #1 priority. When and how to resume school can only be answered after he has been assessed. At the treatment planning session (approximately 30-45 days after intake), we will be able to give you more direction about how and when his education can resume.

9. *What about special events (weddings, funerals, birthday, holidays)? Will he be able to join the family?*

During this process, recovery is the #1 priority. While other important life events may occur during this time, participation in them will be at the discretion of the staff. Please get approval from the staff prior to making any plans.

10. *When can I come visit him?*

Visitation is limited to Sundays 12 pm - 4pm. Please do not visit the first two Sundays he is here. After that, check with the staff before visiting the first time. Short visits, 1-2 hours every other Sunday, are best. Longer visits or other times will require that he be approved for a therapeutic leave (TL).

If you are visiting from out of town, please talk with staff so that we can coordinate your schedule to maximize visiting time while minimizing disruption to his recovery schedule.

11. *Who is allowed to visit?*

Only approved individuals are allowed to visit regardless of whether they are family or not. No old using friends, even if it's a brother, sister, girlfriend, or cousin, are allowed to visit. Anyone who shows up smelling of alcohol or under the influence of drugs (prescription or otherwise) will be asked to leave.

If you have any other questions not addressed in this FAQ, please contact Purple staff.

Thank you for entrusting Purple to help with your family members' recovery.