

## **Section 101. Family Care Homes and Group Homes**

- A. **Intent and Purpose.** The City of Jacksonville recognizes the desire and/or need for some citizens to use their residence for limited nonresidential activities. However, the City believes that the need to protect the integrity of residential areas is of paramount concern. It is important to allow, but to also regulate, nonresidential activities in the city's residential districts. In essence, "family care homes" and "group homes" are limited commercial-type activities in residential areas to an extent that no neighbors will be aware, by outward appearance, of the activity.
- B. **Performance Criteria.** A family care home and group home shall meet the following minimum conditions.
1. The activity shall not be inconsistent with the use of the premises as a dwelling.
  2. Family care homes and group homes must be licensed by the appropriate North Carolina licensing department and must meet all applicable Code requirements.
  3. There shall be no exterior evidence from a public right-of-way of a family care home or group home except a sign as permitted by Part C below.
  4. A family care home or group home shall not be permitted within the ½ mile radius of another family care home or group home. Spacing shall be measured from the center of the parcel on which the group home is located.
  5. No family care home or group home shall result in garbage disposal exceeding standard residential use.
- C. **Permitted Signs.** An indirectly lighted name plate or professional sign not over one square foot in area and attached flat against the building shall be permitted in connection with an incidental family care home or group home.
- D. **Inspections.** An inspector shall have the right at any time, upon reasonable request, to enter and inspect the premises for safety and compliance purposes, with the consent of the property owner.
- E. **Nonconformities.** The existing facilities that have been licensed by the NC Division of Facility Services or have obtained home occupation permits from the City will be deemed nonconforming uses if the facility cannot meet the requirements of this ordinance. All other existing facilities that cannot meet the above requirements of this ordinance must cease operation within 90 days of the adoption of the ordinance.