

## **Neighborhood Description**

The Loy Center is an on-campus neighborhood that consists of university owned houses that are designated for upper-class Greek affiliated students. Any active IFC, NPHC, or PA Greek organization at Elon is eligible to have a house in the Loy Neighborhood and all chapters can apply for a house every three years. The houses are designated A-S and were built in three phases: 6 opened in 1988, 7 opened in 1997, and the remaining 6 opened in 2011.

The Loy Neighborhood is open to all upper-class students, but most of the students who live in the neighborhood are sophomores. Therefore, Loy's neighborhood theme is **Emerging Leadership** which mirrors the university's investment in the leadership development of fraternity and sorority members and places an emphasis on the development of the primarily sophomore population in Loy. This will be especially relevant to members of the community because sophomores are likely finishing the new member phase of their journey and exploring the possibility of taking on their first leadership role within their chapters.

## **House Details**

- 19 university owned houses
- 15 full houses (10-13 residents) and 4 half houses (5 residents)
- 116 rooms total (48% doubles, 43% singles, 9% triples)
- 192 residents total
- Additional amenities: living room, kitchen with stove and refrigerator, washer and dryer, first floor office, extra-long twin beds, wardrobe or dresser, and a desk with a chair

## **Neighborhood Leadership**

Since the Loy houses are on-campus housing options through the Office of Residence Life, there are trained student staff members in the neighborhood akin to Resident Assistants called House Managers. Each house has a live-in House Manager who is a member of the house's organization and new members can apply to be their organization's House Manager during the spring semester after recruitment. Additionally, the Loy team has two Senior House Managers who have served as a House Manager for at least one year before and are not required to live in Loy Center. In regard to professional staff, the Loy Neighborhood is overseen by a Graduate Apprentice enrolled in the Masters of Higher Education program at Elon as well as the Assistant Director of Housing Operations and Loy Neighborhood located in Janice Ratliff Suite 101. This upcoming year, Loy Neighborhood will also have a faculty in-residence, Jessalyn Strauss, joining the leadership team.

**Assistant Director of Housing Operations and Loy Neighborhood:** Shauna Zupan

**Graduate Apprentice:** Rebecca Wiles

**Faculty In-Residence:** Jessalynn Stauss

**2022-23 Senior House Managers:** Jessica Good and Wise Halverson

## **Outcomes**

1. Increase inclusion and involvement of NPHC organizations and other Greek organizations that are not represented in the Loy Neighborhood through intentional programming.
2. Reestablish the Loy Neighborhood Association.
3. Increase intentional programming that has a direct focus on one of the five purpose areas of the Fraternity and Sorority Community mission statement by adjusting HM program requirements.
4. Continue to establish a strong Loy Neighborhood identity amongst residents that future residents look forward to being a part of. This will be accomplished through the execution of signature programs and increased marketing and branding efforts.
5. Refine the Loy Graduate Apprentice position and job description to clearly define responsibilities and expectations.
6. Introduce the new faculty in residence to the neighborhood through creative and meaningful programs and interactions.

## **First Six Weeks**

As a community of entirely returning students, the first six weeks of the school year will be focused on transitioning back to Elon and into an environment in which the fraternity/sorority experience is a focal point. The goal is for relationships that are formed among the house manager staff during training to lead to additional interactions between students residing in all houses. Proposed aspects of the first six weeks' initiative are:

- Continuation of our neighborhood traditions (more detailed information about traditions in the Neighborhood Traditions section) that fall within the first six weeks including:
  - Welcome Back Picnic within the first week of move-in (possible continued collaboration with Global Neighborhood)
  - Loy Olympics will be hosted in September, preferably early September to promote community building amongst residents
- All house managers will be expected to host at least one community building program in Week 1, Week 3, and Week 5 with their own houses
- On alternating weeks (Week 2, Week 4, and Week 6), house managers will be randomly paired up to create collaborative programming between their two houses. This will allow new residents in Loy to connect with other houses at the beginning of the year. The randomization of pairs will allow more diversity of connection, so the same houses are not always collaborating with each other.
  - Neighborhood Leadership (Assistant Director, Graduate Apprentice, and Senior House Managers) will provide a list of possible collaborative programs.

## **Annual Traditions of Loy Neighborhood**

- **Welcome Back Picnic** (August – Fall Semester)
  - Residents of Loy Neighborhood are invited to come out to a Welcome Back Picnic in the neighborhood during the first week of the academic year. This event usually consists of catering and a lawn game or two. House Managers are encouraged to bring their residents to this event to get to know each other better and celebrate the beginning of the year.
- **Loy Olympics** (September – Fall Semester)
  - Residents sign up to participate in teams from their organization to compete in sports and lawn games. Some previous games that we've done is tug-of-war, HORSE, and cornhole. The winning teams are given either a pizza party or a dozen donuts for breakfast one morning.
- **Trick-or-Treat on Greek Street** (October – Fall Semester)
  - Faculty, Administrators, and Community members are invited to bring their kids to trick-or-treat through the Loy houses. All of the houses participate, house residents dress up and decorate their houses for a fun experience for all!
- **Friendsgiving** (November – Fall Semester)
  - Loy Neighborhood partners with Student Involvement to throw a Thanksgiving dinner for the entire Greek community. Previously we have also had raffle opportunities for attendees!
- **Pie a House Manager** (March – Spring Semester)
  - Residents in Loy are invited to come out to the Global Basketball Courts and donate a dollar to pie a House Manager of their choice! Each year, a new organization or charity is chosen to donate proceeds to.
- **New Member Welcome** (April – Spring Semester)
  - After Loy rosters are solidified, future Loy Neighborhood residents are invited to come together in their quads for icebreaker games, get-to-know-you activities, and snacks aimed at building community prior to move in. Each quad of houses will organize their own welcoming event, but new members are more than welcome to move throughout the quads to meet everyone in the neighborhood.

### **Additional Programming Initiatives**

#### **House Manager Programming**

In addition to our first six weeks initiative and our annual traditions, house managers in Loy provide two programming opportunities a month for their residents (besides December, January, and May). These programs are intended to further build community within the house or neighborhood, connect residents to resources, and/or fulfil other goals of the organization. Once a semester (2 per year), one of these house manager programs is expected to align with a subtheme for the neighborhood and fraternity and sorority life:

1. Intellectual Development
2. Effective Leadership
3. Responsible Citizenship
4. Inclusive Environments

## 5. Values / Ethics Integration

These intentional programs should also include a collaborative element with a partnering office on campus.

### **National Panhellenic Council (NPHC) Integration**

While there are not currently any NPHC organizations that have houses in Loy Neighborhood, we recognize that they are an integral part of the Greek community on campus and would like to include them as much as possible. We plan to hold neighborhood programs on the Loy Quad between Loy N,O,P,Q and the NPHC garden to encourage integration and attendance. Leadership of NPHC organizations will receive a copy of this neighborhood plan, invitations to neighborhood events, and additional communication from Loy Neighborhood leadership.

For review of our first draft of this neighborhood plan, we would value the input of the following campus partners:

- Student Involvement
- Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education (CREDE)
- Kernodle Center for Civic Life
- Other relevant campus partners not listed here