



### Living Library Guidelines for Readers

1. Checkouts are for up to 30 minutes. One to three readers can check out a Book together.
2. If there are no holds, and the Book agrees, the title can be "renewed" for another 30 minutes.
3. The Reader must return the Book in the same condition as borrowed!
4. You are encouraged to ask questions and share your own point of view, but always with respect for the person who has volunteered to be a Living Book. The Living Book can choose to discontinue a loan and return to the Library, if he or she feels so inclined.

## GUIDELINES FOR "READERS"

**How does a Living Library work?** Welcome! As a Reader, we invite you to enjoy coffee and cookies while you browse through the catalog of Living Book titles. If you spot a title you would like to "check out," please reserve a time slot with a Librarian. With the Book's permission, more than one Reader can check out a Book together, such as a husband and wife or a small group of friends. At the appointed check-out time, the Book and Reader adjourn to a quiet area in the library for a one-on-one conversation of up to 30 minutes. At the end of the conversation, the Book is returned to the library "stacks" for another Reader to check out.

**The Role of Librarians:** Library staff and volunteers will be available to answer questions, help Readers select Books, and introduce Readers to their Living Book selections.

**Is the actual library open at this time?** Readers may check out titles from the book cart in the meeting room, but the main area of the library is not open at this time. We invite you to return at 1pm when we are fully staffed and ready to help you.

### Sample Questions for Readers

1. Why did you decide to participate in the Living Library.
2. What makes you stereotypical? Not stereotypical?
3. Can you give me an example of how you have been accepted in society? Not accepted in society?
4. What makes you who you are?
5. What is the most rewarding experience you have had?
6. How have your experiences shaped your life personally and professionally?
7. What has been your biggest obstacle?
8. Do you have a defining moment? If so, what?