

PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN VOLUNTEER ADMINISTRATION

As a professional in volunteer administration I accept responsibility :

to develop a personal, coherent philosophy of volunteerism as a foundation for working with others in developing volunteer programs;

to help create a social climate through which human needs can be met and human values enhanced while promoting the involvement of persons in decisions which directly affect them;

to promote understanding and the actualization of mutual benefits inherent in any act of volunteer service;

to develop volunteer programs and initiatives that respect and enhance the human dignity of all person related to them;

to respect the privacy of individuals and safeguard information received as confidential, and to understand and treat with respect individuals from a diversity of backgrounds;

to develop a volunteer program that will enhance and extend the work of the organization's paid staff while contributing to the credibility of the profession in the eyes of those it serves;

to be reliable, careful, prepared and well informed and to pursue excellence even when resources are limited;

to improve my knowledge, skills and judgments through reflective decision making with the intent of advancing the long term greater good;

to be kind, compassionate and generous in all actions so as to minimize the harm done to others in the performance of my duties;

to have an open and impartial process for collecting and evaluating information critical for making decisions through clear communication regarding commitments made on behalf of the organization, staff, or volunteers;

to have impartial and objective standards that avoid discriminatory or prejudicial behaviors, and for addressing conflicts of interest should they occur;

to the truth, assuring that all interactions with volunteers and other paid staff are founded on the premise of open and honest interaction;

to base my actions on the core ethical values of my profession, not compromising those values for convenience.