



*Code of Ethics - Board of Directors*

*As a member of the board, I will:*

- Listen carefully to my board colleagues.
- Respect the opinion of fellow board members.
- Respect and support majority decisions of the board.
- Recognize that all authority is vested in the full board only when it meets in legal sessions.
- Keep well-informed about developments relevant to issues that may come before the board.
- Participate in board meetings and actions.
- Bring to the attention of the board any issues I believe will have an adverse effect on the organization or those we serve.
- Attempt to interpret the needs of those we serve to the nonprofit, and interpret the actions of the nonprofit to those we serve.
- Refer complaints to the proper level on the chain of command.
- Recognize that my job is to ensure that the nonprofit is well-managed, not to manage the nonprofit.
- Represent all those whom this nonprofit serves, not just a particular geographic area or interest group.
- Consider myself a “trustee” of the nonprofit and do my best to ensure that it is well maintained, financially secure, growing, and always operating in the best interests of those we serve.
- Always work to learn how to do my job better.
- Declare conflicts of interest between my personal life and my position on the board, and abstain from voting or discussion when appropriate.

*As a member of the board, I will not:*

- Criticize fellow board members or their opinions, in or out of the board room.
- Use the nonprofit organization for my personal advantage or that of my friends or relatives.
- Discuss the confidential proceedings of the board outside the board room.
- Promise before the meeting how I will vote on any issue.
- Interfere with the duties of the administrator or undermine the administrator’s authority with staff members.