

A CODE OF ETHICS FOR VOLUNTEERS

As a volunteer I realize that I am subject to a code of ethics similar to that which binds the professional in the field in which I work. Like them, I assume certain responsibilities and expect to account for what I do in terms of what I am expected to do:

1. I will keep confidential matters confidential.
2. I interpret "volunteer" to mean that I have agreed to work without compensation in money, but having been accepted as a worker, I expect to do my work according to standards, as the paid staff expect to do their work.
3. I promise to take to my work an attitude of open-mindedness; to be willing to be trained for it; to bring to it interest and attention.
4. I realize that I may have assets that my co-workers may not have and that I shall use these to enrich the project on which we are working together.
5. I realize also that I may lack assets that my co-workers have, but I will not let this make me feel inadequate but still endeavor to assist in developing good teamwork.
6. I plan to find out how I can best serve the activity for which I have volunteered, and to offer as much as I am sure I can give, but no more.
7. I realize that I must live up to my promise and, therefore, will be careful that my agreement is so simple and clear that it cannot be misunderstood.
8. I believe that my attitude toward volunteer work should be professional. I believe that I have an obligation to my work, to those who direct it, to my colleagues, to those for whom it is done and to the public.

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