

# SOCIAL SAFETY INITIATIVE

## CODE OF ETHICS

To promote public health practices is to advocate the framework that protects the health of all people in all communities. Social Safety Initiative promotes public health by being both a resource for local communities and a champion of public health. We recognize that to be effective in such a critical role, we must earn trust through the demonstratable actions of our values and ethics.

The core values public health equity and education is the lens we use in the decisions and policies we implement in our organization. Following that are our values of accountability, professional development, and kindness.

### PUBLIC HEALTH EQUITY AND EDUCATION

By investing in the network of knowledge, communities will have the agency and resilience to navigate public health challenges.

- We are committed to ongoing professional learning relevant to their field to deliver informed, accurate and accessible content.
- We recognize and promote the importance of interdisciplinary education to deliver complete and accurate information.
- Our volunteers draw upon their unique perspectives and experiences to help inform our decisions to ensure our educational materials apply to all communities.
- We understand that there is an equity gap in public health. To help close this gap, we dedicate a large portion of our operations to providing free educational resources for both quality and equitable educational experience.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

We are accountable for our work, the stewardship of the organization, and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. We act with integrity that justifies the trust we earn from our communities.

- We act with integrity and behave in a responsible, honest manner.
- Privacy is a key underpinning of our ethical framework. All of our stakeholders respect individuals' privacy and believe that any personal information belongs only to that person.
- We are stringent about obtaining and storing a person's informed consent when using any of their information in our educational material.
- We conduct research ethically and responsibly with proper, informed permission and supervision.
- We are transparent in the operations of our organization, the ethical use of finances, and honest disclosures of information.
- We abide by all laws, rules, and regulations that relate to our operations. We incorporate the latest mandates, regulations, and recommendations put forth by national and international centers of public health.

- We continually learn and adapt our practices to maintain the highest ethical standards we set for ourselves.
- We provide our professional training services and resources in a nondiscriminatory manner.
- We avoid all activities that are or may appear to be, in conflict with our responsibilities as a member of our organization. Our volunteers refrain from using their position for personal, professional, or financial gain. We do not intentionally suppress or distort any of our educational material and actively work against it.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We encourage our volunteers to develop their professional knowledge and apply those skills in practice.

- We are committed to enabling our volunteers to pursue opportunities to learn, develop, and practice new knowledge related to public health issues and the communities we serve.
- Our volunteers contribute to the body of knowledge and the growth of individuals through mentorship, teaching, research, and disseminating new knowledge.
- Our organization's decisions and actions have a positive impact on teaching, learning, leadership, and community service.

## KINDNESS

Kindness is a broad value that is a key underpinning to Social Safety Initiative's decisions and actions. We recognize that the past few years have been a difficult. Kindness is a critical value that is sorely needed and one that all deserve to experience.

- Our actions demonstrate the respect, dignity, and intrinsic worth of every person. We refuse to tolerate any form of discrimination or harassment and take the appropriate measures necessary to ensure a safe, healthy work environment.
- We take measures to care for our volunteers' mental, physical, and emotional health. We encourage open and confidential communication about one's well-being and take appropriate measures to accommodate them. We are all in this together.
- Our leaders are tolerant and open-minded. They actively engage with local communities and encourage respectful dialogue to learn what real issues are experienced. Our leaders are willing to admit where they are wrong and when appropriate, change their positions.
- We develop and implement internal policies and procedures that enable dependable and equitable treatment for all of our stakeholders.