



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

District Council of Dayton
1133 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd. Suite 308
Dayton, OH 45417
937/222-7349

CODE OF ETHICS FOR GROUP VOLUNTEERS

1. I will be conscious of the fact that everything I do, directly or indirectly, has the potential to reflect upon St. Vincent de Paul as a whole.

I will hold myself to the highest possible standard of conduct reflective of the work that I do, always striving to avoid even the appearance of impropriety.

2. I will recognize the worth, dignity and uniqueness of all persons, and will at all times treat clients, customers, staff, and fellow volunteers with respect, regardless of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, marital status, political belief, mental or physical disability, military status, status as a veteran or any types of discrimination based on personal characteristics, conditions or status.
3. I will at all times clearly distinguish between statements made by me as a private individual and statements representing St. Vincent de Paul and/or statements that could be mistakenly interpreted as representing St. Vincent de Paul.
4. I will at all times conduct myself in a professional manner while in public places and particularly at times when customers, clients, and/or supporters of St. Vincent de Paul are present.
5. I will at no time aid or abet a client and/or anyone else in any form of illegal activity, or participate in any illegal activity that would directly or indirectly reflect adversely on the agency's integrity, or expose the organization to any negative publicity.

I will never knowingly contribute to enabling a client's irresponsible behavior, or put my own safety or the safety of others at risk.

6. I will at all times avoid relationships or commitments that conflict or may conflict with the interests of St. Vincent de Paul.
7. I will avoid any romantic attachments and/or sexual relationships with clients, customers, and/or residents, whether they are temporary or long-term participants in an agency program or activity.
8. I understand that, as a St. Vincent de Paul volunteer, I am not permitted to invite clients or residents into my home for any reason, nor am I permitted to spend the night in a client or resident's quarters.

9. I will actively work to expand choices and opportunities for all people with special regard for disadvantaged or oppressed groups of people.
10. I will avoid exploitation of professional relationships for personal gain.

I will at no time accept monetary gifts from customers, clients, or residents without prior approval of the program manager.

11. I will not purchase from or sell any merchandise or services to clients, customers, or residents, nor will I engage in their hire for personal projects.
12. I will at no time engage in activities designed to proselytize or convert a customer, client, or resident to a particular religion belief or church.
13. I will actively work to prevent practices that are inhumane or discriminatory against any person or group of persons.
14. I will respect the privacy of customers, clients, and residents and hold in confidence all information obtained in the course of providing professional services, to include:
 - a. I will not disclose confidential information regarding any facet of the program of its participants without prior approval from senior management;
 - b. I will not acknowledge to anyone outside the agency that an individual is a participant, client, customer, resident or recipient of any agency program or services;
 - c. I will not discuss or reveal confidential information regarding fellow volunteers or St. Vincent de Paul employees; and
 - d. I will make no statements to the media.
15. I will at no time use profanity, vulgarity, obscenities, or discriminatory slurs against or involving customers, clients, residents, or fellow volunteers.
16. I will not be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while volunteering or while acting as a representative, actual or perceived, of the agency.

CERTIFICATION

I have read the Code of Ethics for Volunteers of the Society of St. Vincent DePaul. I fully understand its content and agree to abide by its dictates.

Signature of Volunteer

Date

Printed Name

Group Name