

COMMUNITY ACTION CODE OF ETHICS

Information contained below is a commitment list of standards for Community Action professionals who dedicate themselves to eliminate poverty.

1. Recognizing that the chief function of the community action movement at all times is to serve the best interests of the poor thereby serving the best interests of all people.
2. Accept as a personal duty the responsibility to keep up to date on emerging issues and to conduct ourselves with professional competence, fairness, impartiality, efficiency, and effectiveness.
3. Respect the structure and responsibilities of the Board of Directors, provide them with facts and advice as a basis for their making policy decisions, and uphold and implement policies adopted by the Board of Directors.
4. Keep the community informed about issues affecting the poor; facilitate communication between the poor, locally elected public officials, and the non-poor private sector.
5. Conduct our organizational and operational duties with positive leadership exemplified by open communication, creativity, dedication, and compassion.
6. Exercise whatever discretionary authority we have under the law to promote the interests of the poor.
7. Serve the community action movement with respect, concern, courtesy, and responsiveness, recognizing that service to the poor is beyond service to oneself.
8. Demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, truthfulness, honesty, and fortitude in all our community action activities in order to inspire confidence and trust in the community action movement.
9. Serve in such a way that we do not realize undue personal gain from the performance of our professional duties.
10. Avoid any interest or activity which is in conflict with the conduct of official duties.
11. Respect and protect privileged information to which we have access in the course of official duties.
12. Strive for personal professional excellence and encourage the professional development of our associates and those seeking to become community action executives.

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