

Guiding Principles for Volunteerism

RESPECT ALL PEOPLE AND PERSPECTIVES

Listen carefully to volunteers to gain an understanding of their “why” story as well as their personal hopes and expectations. Make room at every table for all people, opinions and perspectives. Be inclusive of age, gender, ethnicity, profession and background to make our vision a reality.

DEFINE ROLES AND EXPECTATIONS

Clearly articulate volunteer responsibilities and expectations up front. Provide the latest tools, training and support to ensure each volunteer’s success.

ENGAGE AND EMPOWER VOLUNTEERS

Unleash every volunteer’s unique gifts and talents so that all may benefit from their knowledge, leadership and experience. Remain open to new ideas and be willing to give volunteers the space to lead.

CREATE A CULTURE OF VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Ensure that volunteers are informed, valued and recognized for their achievements and contributions in the way that they prefer. Show appreciation in a timely manner and celebrate every success, whether big or small.

GROW RELATIONSHIPS INTO PARTNERSHIPS

Work tirelessly to develop deep, committed volunteer relationships. Devote time every day to connecting with volunteers to deepen their understanding of our mission and strengthen their connection to our organization.