

Code of Conduct for Community Connections

Our first allegiance is to the person we support; all other activities and functions we perform flow from this allegiance. To this end, we will...

- encourage growth and recognize the autonomy of the individuals receiving support while being attentive and energetic in reducing their risk of harm.
- support the mission and vitality of our profession to assist people in leading selfdirected lives and to foster a spirit of partnership with the people we support, other professionals and the community.
- safeguard and respect the confidentiality and privacy of the people we support.
- promote and practice justice, fairness and equity for the people we support and the community as a whole.
- affirm the human rights, civil rights and responsibilities of the people we support.
- respect the human dignity and uniqueness of the people we support.
- recognize each person we support as valuable and help other understand their value.
- assist the people we support to develop and maintain relationships.
- assist the people we support to direct the course of their own life.
- advocate with the people we support for justice, inclusion and full community participation.
- act honestly, truthfully and with integrity in all our transactions and dealings.
- commit to avoiding conflicts of interest. When a conflict of interest is unavoidable, we will inform people we support of the presence of the conflict and the efforts we are taking to mitigate it.
- treat our employees with respect, fairness and good faith and providing conditions of employment that safeguard their rights and welfare.
- commit to being a good corporate citizen and complying with both the spirit and the letter of the law.
- act responsibly toward the communities in which we work and for the benefit of the communities that we serve.
- be responsible, transparent and accountable for all of our actions, and
- commit to improving the accountability, transparency, ethical conduct and effectiveness of the disability services field.

Adapted from the DSP Code of Conduct from NADSP and the Code of Ethics from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.