

Global Neighbors Canada Child Protection Policy and Code of Behavior

WHY A CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND CODE OF BEHAVIOR?

- Every child has the right to be protected from any form of abuse, violence and exploitation. Global Neighbors works to create a safe environment for children who benefit from our different projects.
- Children and young people need protection and safeguarding. First, they need protection from the effects of poverty, disadvantage, exclusion and violence. But in addition to these economic, social, and political problems affecting a large number of children, individual children might also be at risk from other forms of abuse provided by adults or other children. In this policy Global Neighbors is concerned with specific incidents of maltreatment against a child who is in contact with a Global Neighbors volunteer, traveler or representative.
- This policy is approved and endorsed by the Board and makes clear Global Neighbors position concerning child protection. It applies to all volunteers, travelers and representatives of Global Neighbors projects.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND CODE OF BEHAVIOR

- All volunteers, travelers and representatives of Global Neighbors Canada shall receive and acknowledge by signature a copy of the Child Protection Policy and code of behavior before any visitation with the children or young people will be granted.
- All children are to be respected and proper care given at all times to ensure the children's safety and well-being.
- No volunteers, travelers and representatives of Global Neighbors Canada shall use, abuse or exploit the children in any way. This includes physical, sexual or emotional abuse or negligence.
- All children discipline matters shall be the responsibility of the appointed staff member. No volunteers, travelers and representatives of Global Neighbors shall discipline a child or children in any way. Any concerns of improper behavior by a child or children shall be reported to appointed staff member.

- No volunteers, travelers and representatives of Global Neighbors Canada shall act flirtatiously with any child or children or touch any child or children inappropriately. Inappropriate touching shall include, but is not limited to, touching children in areas that are normally covered by shorts and shirt and picking up, lap-holding, hugging, kissing or tickling inappropriately.
- No volunteers, travelers or representatives of Global Neighbors Canada shall be alone with a child in the project area or outside it. When in the presence of children all volunteers, travelers or representatives of Global Neighbors Canada should always be visible to others.
- Volunteers, travelers or representatives of Global Neighbors Canada are not permitted to take a child or children who are not their offspring to their place or residence.
- The volunteers, travelers or representatives of Global Neighbors Canada are to always be responsible for maintaining an appropriate relationship, even if a child behaves inappropriately. Volunteers, travelers or representatives of Global Neighbors Canada should not place themselves in compromising or vulnerable positions.
- Inappropriate behavior towards a child or children, including failure to follow the Global Neighbors Canada Child Protection Policy will result in an investigation and disciplinary action if necessary. Which could include an immediate return to Canada with appropriate consequences/disciplinary actions to follow as determined by the board of Global Neighbors Canada and the laws of Canada.

Declaration of Commitment

All volunteers, travelers and representatives of Global Neighbors Canada must sign this declaration prior to leaving Canada and going on the tour provided by Global Neighbors Canada

I DECLARE THAT:

_____ I have read and understand the Global Neighbors **Child Protection Policy and Code of Behavior**.

_____ I will follow the procedures and protocols as provided for and defined by the **Child Protection Policy and Code of Behavior** .

_____ I will immediately report any unusual or abusive behavior toward a child to the Global Neighbors tour leader.

_____ I have not been accused or convicted of any offense involving physical or sexual abuse of children or young people.

_____ I am willing to provide a vulnerable sector check if requested by Global Neighbors Canada.

_____ I understand that if a complaint is brought against me regarding the abuse of children while engaged in the trip with Global Neighbors, the allegation will be thoroughly investigated in cooperation with the appropriate authorities.

Name (Please Print): _____

Nationality: _____

Passport No.: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____