



Code of Ethics

The aim of this Code of Ethics document is to guide the professional behaviour of all those involved with our program, including mentors, volunteers, staff, advisors, management and board members.

Professional Obligations

1. To regard the safety of the young people in our program as our primary professional duty
2. To hold ourselves personally responsible for our professional conduct
3. To maintain an objective, non-possessive, non-judgmental professional relationship with our volunteer mentors and mentees
4. To adhere to the confidentiality of all records, material, and knowledge concerning the persons we serve and to use in a responsible manner the information obtained in the course of professional relationships
5. To work cooperatively with other persons, agencies and partners having respect for their areas of competence
6. To not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, colour, religion or sexual orientation
7. To make a commitment to assess our personal and vocational strengths and limitations, biases and effectiveness
8. We maintain the willingness and ability to recognise when it is in the best interest of those we serve to refer him or her to another program
9. To take personal responsibility for continuing our professional growth through further education, supervision or training regardless of level of authority
10. to be totally committed to providing the highest quality of care through our professional efforts and by utilising any other health professionals and/or services which may assist our mentees and their families generally

Unprofessional Conduct

The following behaviour is deemed to be unworthy. A person involved with Young Love Foundation is considered to have breached the Code of Ethics if they have:

1. without reasonable cause, withheld a service or failed to give information about availability of a service, or neglected to render or complete a professional service after undertaking to do so

2. failed to respect the privacy and dignity of a person involved with the Young Love Foundation through divulging confidential information without consent, except when required by professional or legal obligations
3. violated the legal rights of others
4. treated a person in the program with disrespect
5. abused a position of authority or a professional relationship to the detriment of persons served or of colleagues
6. generally conducted themselves in a manner inconsistent with or in violation of, the statements contained under Professional Obligations

This Code of Ethics was produced by the Young Love Foundation based on the suggested adaption from the document "A Guide to Effective Practice for Mentoring Young People" as issued by the Department for Victorian Communities in November 2008