



Code of Ethics Policy

North Dakota Cancer Coalition

DRAFT 10/01/2025

Introduction

The North Dakota Cancer Coalition (NDCC) is committed to reducing the incidence and improving the quality of life for those impacted by cancer in North Dakota through prevention, education, and access to care. As a state-wide network of organizations, volunteers and board members, NDCC plays a critical role in upholding the values and principles that guide our mission.

This Code of Ethics outlines the expected conduct of all individuals affiliated with NDCC, including volunteers, board members, and the Coalition Manager. By adhering to this policy, we ensure that our efforts are carried out with integrity, transparency, and respect for the communities we serve.

1. Mission Alignment

All actions and decisions must align with NDCC's mission of reducing the incidence and impact of cancer in North Dakota. Volunteers, board members, and the Coalition Manager shall actively promote NDCC's mission and contribute to fulfilling its goals in a manner that is consistent with the Coalition's values of collaboration, compassion, and inclusion.

2. Integrity and Transparency

Honesty: All individuals shall act with honesty in all NDCC activities and communications. This includes accurately representing the organization, its services, and its mission.

Transparency: NDCC strives to maintain transparency in its decision-making processes, financial management, and public communications. Board members and the Coalition Manager are expected to ensure that all relevant information is shared openly and clearly with stakeholders and members.

Confidentiality: Information that is privileged, confidential, or sensitive must be protected. This includes personal information of individuals affected by cancer and proprietary information of partnering organizations.

3. Respect and Collaboration

Respect for Others: Volunteers, board members, and the Coalition Manager must treat all individuals – whether community members, partners, or fellow coalition members – with dignity and respect. Discrimination, harassment, or any form of disrespect will not be tolerated.

Collaboration: NDCC believes in the power of collaboration. All participants are encouraged to foster an environment of teamwork, recognizing that collective action strengthens our ability to reduce the impact of cancer.

4. Accountability

Responsibility: Each volunteer, board member, and the Coalition Manager is responsible for upholding the highest ethical standards. Personal accountability and commitment to NDCC's mission are expected in all activities.

Conflict of Interest: All individuals must avoid conflicts of interest that could undermine NDCC's mission. Any potential conflicts must be disclosed promptly to the board. Personal or financial interests should not influence decisions made on behalf of NDCC.

5. Stewardship

Financial Integrity: Board members and the Coalition Manager must ensure that NDCC's financial resources are used responsibly, with the goal of maximizing the Coalition's impact. Members must also be mindful about using any Coalition resources, including time, donations, or materials, in a manner that advances NDCC's mission.

Sustainability: All decisions and actions should be made with a long-term view, ensuring that NDCC's resources, programs, and relationships are sustained for future generations of North Dakotans affected by cancer.

6. Professionalism and Commitment

Professional Behavior: NDCC members and volunteers, board members, and the Coalition Manager shall conduct themselves professionally in all Coalition activities and interactions, maintaining NDCC's reputation as a trusted, compassionate advocate for those impacted by cancer.

Commitment to the Mission: All individuals are expected to be fully committed to the Coalition's mission. This includes attending meetings, participating in activities, and contributing to NDCC's strategic goals.

7. Ethical Accountability and Resolution

Upholding Standards: NDCC is committed to fostering a culture of integrity and ethical behavior. When concerns arise regarding adherence to this Code of Ethics, they should be brought forward in a respectful and constructive manner.

Reporting Concerns: Individuals are encouraged to report any ethical concerns or potential breaches to the Board Chair or Coalition Manager. Reports may be submitted anonymously and will be handled with discretion and care.

Constructive Resolution: NDCC will address concerns through a fair and thoughtful process, guided by the principles of transparency, respect, and restorative action. When necessary, the Executive Committee may take appropriate steps to uphold the integrity of the Coalition, which may include changes in roles or responsibilities.

Acknowledgment

All NDCC members and volunteers, board members, and the Coalition Manager must review this Code of Ethics and agree to abide by its principles. By doing so, they commit to advancing NDCC's mission and values through ethical conduct.