



Group Service Programs Participant Commitment Statement

The following commitment statement, or code of conduct, outlines the expectations that American Jewish World Service has for participants in its group service programs. Every participant's acceptance is based on our expectation that he or she will abide by the program's goals as well as certain boundaries set by AJWS. While AJWS does not expect any misconduct to occur, it is important to make our expectations clear.

In the spirit of creating a positive community environment, we view this document as a statement of assurance from each participant that he or she agrees to live by these standards and be a trustworthy and understanding member of the group. It is designed for the benefit and safety of the individuals and the group, as well as for the host community and all of the people that the group will encounter.

AJWS reserves the right to dismiss any participant from the program, at the participant's expense, in the event that this agreement has been violated. By signing it, you are agreeing to observe this statement of commitment in its entirety:

1. I will be culturally sensitive and alert. I will act with integrity, kindness and respect for the community, my fellow volunteers, the program and AJWS. If I have any questions as to what is within the realm of appropriate behavior, I will speak with an AJWS group leader.
2. I will act in a safe and responsible manner and will be careful to not endanger the health and safety of myself or others. I understand that verbal or physical abuse or harassment towards others will not be tolerated.
3. I will comply at all times with the program itinerary and the instructions of my group leaders. I will engage in every aspect of the work, study and cross-cultural experience and I will not leave the group unless I have received prior permission from an AJWS group leader.
4. I will not handle firearms or any other weapons, including machetes.
5. I will not use or possess any drugs and/or substances, including alcohol, which are illegal under the laws of the United States and/or my country of service. I will not smoke cigarettes during scheduled activities and will only smoke in the one area designated by the group leaders.
6. I will not jump, dive or swim in any body of water without explicit permission from the group's leaders. (During one- to three-week programs, I will not enter any body of water.)
7. I will refrain from engaging in any romantic relationships and/or sexual activity with either my AJWS group leaders or anyone from my country of service.
8. In order to create an inclusive and safe environment, I understand that electronic devices, including but not limited to PSP, DVD players, laptop computers and cell phones, are prohibited. iPods, mp3 players or personal stereos may only be used with earphones in my room, and not during scheduled activities.

Additional for participants under the age of 18:

1. I will not use or possess tobacco or any drugs, including alcohol, which are illegal under the laws of the United States and/or my country of service. I will refrain from any behavior that is not legal for someone my age in the United States and/or my country of service.
2. I will give all of my prescription and over-the-counter medication(s) to the AJWS group leaders, who will administer them according to the prescribed instructions. Exception: If prescribed by my physician, I will carry my epi-pen and/or asthma inhaler on me at all times.
3. I will refrain from engaging in any romantic relationships and sexual activity for the duration of the program.

Printed Name (participant)

Signature (participant)