

## Code of Ethics for Groups Involved in the Private Sponsorship of Refugees<sup>9</sup>

### Preamble

- [Our organization] sponsors refugees because [fill in what motivates your organization: Is it a religious call to help others or seek justice? Or does your community feel an obligation to respond to the needs of others?]
- All refugees have a right to protection and a durable solution. Through sponsorship, we contribute to some refugees securing these rights in Canada, in addition to those refugees resettled by the government.
- Consistent with the purpose of sponsorship, which is to fulfill refugees' rights, we commit to respect and promote the dignity and human rights of refugees, particularly those we sponsor.
- Although we can only sponsor a small number of refugees in need of resettlement, we will respect the principle of non-discrimination in selecting whom we sponsor.
- Recognizing that there is an inherent power imbalance in the relationship between sponsors and sponsored persons, we commit to act in ways that minimize the risk of oppression in the relationship.
- We will seek to promote gender equity, mindful of the need for sensitivity in the cross-cultural setting and in the context of the unequal relationship between sponsors and those sponsored.
- We commit to respect our obligations, including our legal obligations, to protect the rights of sponsored children and other sponsored persons with particular vulnerabilities.

### Principles

We commit to respecting the following ethical principles in our sponsorship work:

1. **Right to self-determination.** We will respect and support the right of those sponsored to make their own decisions about their lives.

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<sup>9</sup> Used from the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) resource: <http://ccrweb.ca/en/code-ethics-groups-involved-private-sponsorship-refugees> .