



Global Brigades Association  
600 Stewart St., Suite 1200  
Seattle, WA 98101

Tel: +001-514-938-6419  
Fax: +001-206-902-4314

## GLOBAL BRIGADES ASSOCIATION, INC. CODE OF ETHICS

\*Global Brigades staff, volunteers, partners, affiliates and donors, are committed to excellence in our work and interactions with the local communities we serve. We act with respect and honesty to encourage participation, collaboration, and long-term partnerships. We share our knowledge and are committed to learning from each other. We embrace diversity and we approach our work with cultural awareness. We integrate our programs to ensure our contributions support our efforts to improve quality of life in holistic and comprehensive ways. Our ethical commitments reflect our guiding principles of social responsibility, sustainability, cultural competency, respect, transparency, and accountability.

### I. Social Responsibility

We are committed to preserving indigenous and local cultures and to improving the health, economic development, and environment of the communities we serve. We empower our stakeholders to share and develop knowledge, while fostering leadership development and global awareness in our volunteers. We create socially conscious citizenry within our university clubs and international communities, together with our nonprofit partners. For the safety of community members and ourselves, we do not conduct services that we are not licensed to conduct.

#### *Values:*

Helping Others, Do No-Harm, Teamwork, Empowerment, Quality of Life, Trust, Commitment, Leadership

#### *In practice:*

- I respond to community needs in a socially responsible way to my full ability, talent, and capacity.
- I am responsible for contributing to a social climate in which human needs are met and quality of life is improved.

### II. Sustainability

We select projects based on a holistic model for sustainability, and empower local communities and partners to achieve independence through maintaining their projects. We are committed to the confluence of program objectives and to developing projects using sustainability criteria and needs assessment. We develop, support, and value partnerships with international and local



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nonprofit organizations to ensure our mutual work is continued.

***Values:***

Quality of Life, Trust, Teamwork, Respect, Holism, Empowerment, Long-Term Vision, Sharing Knowledge, Community Development, Partnership, Collaboration, Independence

***In practice:***

- I am committed to community projects and programs and I am contributing to their completion.
- I approach my work with consideration for all aspects of the community's needs and I work to connect these efforts.

### **III. Cultural Competence**

We believe that cultural competence and humility are vital to success. We promote practices and procedures that encourage respect for diverse cultures and establish a global perspective. Our development efforts are effective and sustainable when we are accepted by the local community and by our international nonprofit partners. Our cultural diversity and understanding is reflected in our volunteers, programs, and partners.

***Values***

Tolerance, Diversity, Empathy, Communication, Empowerment, Human Dignity

***In practice***

- I acknowledge that to be culturally competent I must be open to learning, without assumption of knowledge, about local customs and norms.
- I am committed to conducting myself in respectful ways as dictated by local cultural norms.

### **IV. Respect**

We respect our relationships with volunteers, communities, staff, and partners through creative collaboration. We ensure mutual beneficence for all stakeholders.

***Values:***

Collaboration, Diversity, Tolerance, Open-mindedness, Trust, Creativity, Innovation

***In practice:***



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- I am committed to involving all key participants in discussions and decisions that directly affect them.
- I embrace and contribute innovative ideas and feedback in collaborative work settings.

## V. Transparency and Accountability

We practice transparency and accountability in our actions and behaviors. We dedicate the largest portion of our financial resources to developing the communities we serve. We create accessible programs for volunteers and communities. We responsibly and strategically develop and administer all donations, volunteer capital, and in-kind support. Our financial activity is open to public disclosure.

### *Values:*

Honesty, Trust, Do No-Harm, Respect, Commitment

### Signature of the Parties

Volunteer's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*"Global Brigades" refers to one or more of Global Brigades Association, "Global Brigades USA," "Global Brigades ASG," "Global Brigades Ireland," or "Global Brigades UK." Each of "Global Brigades Association" "Global Brigades USA," "Global Brigades ASG," "Global Brigades Ireland," "Global Brigades UK," "Asociacion Global Brigadas de Honduras," "Fundacion Brigadas Globales de Panama," are separate and independent legal entities.