



Policy Title: Code of Ethics	
Approved by: S.O.A.R. Board of Directors	Approval Date: 5 June 2019

Respect for the Peer

Peer supporters acknowledge that all persons are valued and are not judged. This worth is not enhanced or reduced by differences of colour, race, creed, sexual orientation, physical/mental abilities, any personal characteristic or status. A peer supporter's greatest responsibility is to the peer.

Peer supporters will:

- Demonstrate appropriate respect for the knowledge, insight, and experience of a peer
- Not engage in descriptions or remarks of their peers that adversely reflect on their dignity
- Safeguard their peer's privacy

Responsible Caring

Responsible caring should be carried out in ways that respect and promote the dignity of peers. The conduct of a peer supporter is characterized by an active concern for the welfare of peers with whom they come into contact.

Peer supporters will:

- Protect and promote the welfare of peers
- Not engage in activities that place a peer at risk
- Be acutely aware of the need for discretion and confidentiality
- Refer peer to a professional if the issue is beyond the peer supporters capabilities and training.
- Debrief with a S.O.A.R. resource person as needed
- Inform their peers if it becomes necessary, that we will obtain professional assistance in circumstances where the peer verbalizes the intent to harm themselves or others.

Integrity

Values such as integrity and honesty are essential in a peer supporter/peer relationship. Peer supporters will work with their peers fairly and impartially. They will be accountable to, and guided by, their S.O.A.R. peers.

Peer supporters will:

- Not knowingly misrepresent themselves to peers
- Not exploit peers to further their own personal gain
- Demonstrate a commitment to maintain peer support standards
- Seek consultation from a S.O.A.R. resource person when faced with a difficult situation
- Protect other peer supporters' privacy
- Not speak for S.O.A.R. when involved in public activities unless authorized
- Accept responsibility for the consequences of their actions

Any breaches of the Code of Ethics will be investigated.