Change for Syria Network Civil Bureau Ref: 1/25



Thursday 13.03.2025

A Call to Uphold Values and Focus on Practices in Voluntary and Community Work

To ensure that the environment for volunteering and community work is fair, inclusive, and safe, the Change for Syria Network calls on all initiatives and individuals engaged in community work to adhere to the following values and practices. These are aimed at guaranteeing the unity and cohesion of Syrian society and promoting the principles of justice and equality.

Respect and Social Responsibility:

Treat everyone without discrimination based on sect, race, religion, gender, or beliefs. Combat hate speech and sectarianism, avoiding language with direct or implicit sectarian connotations.

Inclusivity and Non-Exclusion:

Ensure the participation of all societal groups without marginalization or exclusion. Consult representatives from various community components to guarantee inclusive work that reflects diverse perspectives.

Justice and Equality:

Achieve equality in the distribution of opportunities and resources. Adopt clear policies that oppose exclusion or discrimination and condemn any discourse or behavior threatening the unity of Syrian society.

Cooperation and Solidarity:

Foster a spirit of teamwork and collaboration to achieve national interests. Support a culture of dialogue and create open spaces for constructive and inclusive discussions among all parties.

Transparency and Accountability:

Commit to clarity in goals and activities. Continuously implement self-reflection to ensure alignment with declared values and commit to transparency and integrity in communication with the community.

Promoting Civil Peace:

Reject violence and hate speech. Foster a culture of dialogue and understanding, working to resolve disputes through peaceful and constructive means.

Opposing All Forms of Violence Based on Social Affiliation:

Protect the rights of all individuals regardless of social affiliation, with a focus on safeguarding marginalized groups and ensuring an environment free of all forms of violence and discrimination.

Fostering a Unifying National Identity:

Highlight shared history and cultural diversity as positive attributes that enhance societal unity while avoiding their use as sources of conflict.

Ethics and Professionalism:

Promote integrity and the protection of privacy. Adhere to the ethics of volunteer work and respect the dignity and rights of all parties.

Leveraging Data and Research:

Adopt evidence-based policies to support decision-making and avoid spreading inaccurate or misleading information.

Environmental Responsibility:

Commit to protecting the environment and preserving natural resources during the implementation of voluntary and community activities. Ensure environmental sustainability and avoid causing environmental damage that affects current and future generations.

These values and practices serve as an open invitation to all initiatives and individuals involved in voluntary and community work to adhere to them. This commitment is rooted in the belief that strong communities are built on the foundations of justice, respect, equality, rejection of violence, and support for civil peace.

We hope this paper becomes part of the ethical and value-based references contributing to enhancing the spirit of cooperation and cohesion. It emphasizes the rejection of violence, discrimination, exclusion, and sectarian rhetoric, while affirming civil peace and the public interest in Syria.