



**York Region  
Respite Care**

## **Code of Ethics**

1. Every participant will be treated with respect and dignity. We welcome and support people of all backgrounds and identities. This includes, but is not limited to members of any sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, social and economic class, educational level, color, immigration status, sex, age, size, family status, political belief, religion, and mental and physical ability.

2. All staff will be treated with respect and opinions heard and honoured. We all depend on each other to produce the best work we can as a company. Your decisions will affect clients and colleagues and you should take those consequences into account when making decisions.

3. No matter what environment we encounter, we will not judge, interject our opinions on living standards or make anyone feel badly for how they might live. It is common in the population to have low funded, older homes. Our job is to offer support free of judgement.

4. Our working environment is a place of professionalism. Although we all endure trials and tribulations in life, our clients should not endure your problems. Our clientele are completely vulnerable and sensitive to us. When they come to day program or we go into their homes it is important we leave our personal lives at the door in order to be fully present in care and the time we spend with them. We invade their space on a physical level with personal care and it is important that they feel respected as such.

5. Make differences into strengths. We can find strength in diversity. Different people have different perspectives on issues, and that can be valuable for solving problems or generating new ideas. Being unable to understand why someone holds a viewpoint doesn't mean that they're wrong. Don't forget that we all make mistakes and blaming each other doesn't get us anywhere.

Instead, focus on resolving issues and learning from mistakes.