Conflict of Interest Policy
The Special Hope Foundation

The Special Hope Foundation wishes to encourage its board and staff members to become active participants in the causes that compel us to give. It is our desire that members use their time, talents, and expertise in accordance with the values of the mission. However, we recognize that in doing so, that we may periodically create areas of personal conflict within the Foundation. It is our intent to address this issue and provide an acceptable means of dealing with it.

Some potential areas of conflict of interest have been identified. The following listing is not intended to be comprehensive:

1. Foundation board members or their immediate family members who are employed by potential grant recipients.
2. Family members who participate in programs funded by the Foundation.
3. Board members or immediate family who sit on the board of an organization that receives funding.

In the anticipation that such conflicts may arise, or appear to be present, the board and staff members are expected to make full disclosure of their outside connections. These disclosures will then be evaluated by the remaining board members to determine if a true conflict exists. If this is the case, the board member in question shall not participate in any funding discussions of the applicant organization and shall abstain from voting. He may, however, be utilized as a resource to answer specific questions raised by the board.

In the event that a grant is awarded to an organization where one or more members of the board have abstained due to a conflict (or an appearance of a conflict) of interest, the minutes will document the reason(s) for abstaining.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AN AGREEMENT. I AGREE TO ITS TERMS, AND MY ACTIONS HAVE BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE GUIDED THEREBY.

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date                     signature