



URBAN HOMEWORKS DONOR CODE OF CONDUCT

We are absolutely delighted that you are so engaged with and inspired by our vision for housing justice that you have decided to join Urban Homeworks by supporting our mission with a donation.

As one of our valued donors, we have various duties and obligations to you – such as to thank you for your support, use your donation for the purpose for which you gave it, and not to put you under undue pressure to make further gifts. These duties and obligations are set out in our policies, practices, and code of ethics.

In this relationship between us, the nonprofit organization and its staff, and you, the donor, you also have concomitant obligations and duties to us. In making a gift to Urban Homeworks, you agree to abide by this code of conduct and behavior.

1. **I am** making a voluntary donation to Urban Homeworks, not buying a product or service. I therefore understand that fundraisers are not selling me a product or service, and that the professional relationship between us is therefore not a customer-sales relationship.
2. **I will** treat all staff as knowledgeable professionals and always accord them the professional respect they deserve.
3. **I will never** discriminate against or harass fundraising professionals or any other staff based on their sex, gender, sexual orientation, race, class, ability, religious belief, age, or any other protected characteristic.
4. **I recognize** that I have power in this relationship, because I am in the position to give a donation to support this work. I therefore promise not to exploit that power for personal gain.
5. **I will not** put conditions on my donation for the personal benefit of myself, my family or my friends, nor threaten to withhold it unless I get what I want.
6. **I will** not use my power as a donor to divert Urban Homeworks from its core mission. I understand that my gift does not entitle me to a seat on Urban Homeworks' board or to otherwise have influence on the operations or leadership of the organization.

We hope you will agree these are reasonable considerations. You might be surprised that we are even asking you to agree to this code of conduct. The fact that we are indicates that charities do encounter forms of 'donor dominance' from a small number of donors. We hope that by agreeing to abide by this code of conduct, this will raise awareness of the challenges that fundraisers sometimes face, and encourage discussion of this matter among your peers.

**We are grateful to the team at [Rogare: The Fundraising Think Tank](#) for originally drafting this code of conduct.*

