



IOCDF Youth Ambassador Program Code of Conduct

Mission & Vision

Mission: To build a generation of informed advocates who challenge misconceptions, connect peers to resources, and influence how OCD is discussed and treated by equipping youth ages 12–17 with advocacy and outreach skills, mentorship, strategies to combat stigma, and opportunities to lead community education about OCD and related disorders.

Vision: A world where every young person affected by OCD and related disorders has access to effective treatment, support, resources, and is empowered to shape their community's understanding of OCD.

Participation Expectations

Youth Ambassadors will participate in a tiered program:

1. Foundational Youth Ambassador: Complete orientation and training, attend meetings, participate in advocacy and outreach, complete service hours.
2. Senior Ambassador: After at least one year, mentor new ambassadors, lead a project or presentation, assist with recruitment and onboarding, help refine program content.
3. Youth Leadership Council: Serve as peer leaders, advise IOCDF staff, help develop content, represent the program, and present a project or proposal.

Code of Conduct Standards

- Youth Ambassadors are responsible for their actions and how they represent IOCDF. They follow staff instructions and ask for help when needed.
- Treat others with fairness, dignity, and respect. No bullying, harassment, discrimination, abusive language, or rudeness, either in person or online.
- Protect private information about other participants. Do not share mental health, diagnosis, treatment, personal stories, or identity without permission. Confidentiality has limits: tell a trusted adult or IOCDF staff if someone may be at risk of harm. Staff may share information with parents/guardians or authorities when needed for safety or as required by law.
- Follow all safety rules and check-in/check-out procedures. Do not use alcohol, cannabis, nicotine, vaping products, or illegal drugs while participating or representing IOCDF. Do not carry

weapons. Report unsafe situations or inappropriate contact immediately. A clinician must be present for youth-facing programming.

- Do not promote personal, family, or financial interests while representing IOCDF. Do not advocate for specific political, social, or religious beliefs on behalf of IOCDF.
- Use only approved IOCDF platforms. Do not solicit, market, fundraise, or spam without staff approval. Do not share personal contact information, location, school, or private photos. Avoid private one-on-one communication with adults through personal social media. Report inappropriate online contact to staff and a parent/guardian.

Term, Violations, and Signatures

This Code is effective upon signature and remains in effect for 24 months or until the youth exits the program, whichever comes first. Violations may result in dismissal. Parents/guardians will be notified of concerns or violations.