

# **The ACT! Ethos Statement**

ACT! is a charity that is motivated by the Christian faith. It has been established to pursue the aims set out in its Memorandum and Articles of Association. ACT! is committed to following the teaching, lifestyle and example of Jesus Christ, which demonstrated practically his love and care for the poor, sick, vulnerable, afflicted, oppressed, marginalised, socially excluded and emotionally broken, as well as his concern for justice in society.

By imitating Jesus, we want to respond to the needs of all people in our diverse society, irrespective of their religious beliefs, race, creed, colour, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, or any other irrelevant characteristics.

We aim to express our love practically towards people in need through a variety of God-inspired projects. We want to be a positive influence for change and transformation both for individuals and for the wider community.

## **ACT!'s Core Values**

By following Jesus in this way, we are also committed to our core values, which guide everything we do, including the way in which ACT! is managed and how we reach out to those in need. These core values are as follows:

### **We are driven by Christian values**

We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Through Jesus, the love, mercy and grace of God are made known to all people. It is this love, mercy and grace that we seek to share with those in need. Our basis of faith is the Evangelical Alliance's basis of faith. Our vision and values are shaped by the Bible.

In all we do, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we try to be Jesus' representatives expressing his servant-hood, humility and concern for social justice. Through prayer and an active relationship with Jesus, we seek to receive God's guidance and blessing for the projects in which we are involved.

### **We are committed to those in need**

We are called to serve the neediest people in our society by helping to relieve their suffering, promote their wellbeing and transform their future. We try to understand their situation and to work with them for change, if that is what they desire. We are committed to seeking a just society that allows those in need to flourish.

We respect our clients as active participants in this process of change, restoring their dignity as people made in the image of God. They are people from whom we learn and receive, as well as to whom we give.

## **We value people**

We consider everyone to be created and loved by God. We aim to respect the dignity, uniqueness, and intrinsic worth of every person. We believe that, in Jesus, God offers hope for everyone and never gives up on us.

We aim to provide a supportive environment that encourages the personal and spiritual development of our staff, volunteers, and clients.

## **We are stewards**

We believe that the resources at our disposal are not our own, but are given on trust from God, through donors, to help those in need. God requires integrity and honesty from us. We will be open and honest with everyone we deal with, demonstrating high standards of professional competence, appropriate confidentiality and financial accountability.

## **We are partners**

Through our projects we look to support the ongoing work of existing agencies and public sector bodies. We will work in partnership with them and with other charitable or voluntary organisations where this will most effectively meet the needs of those we care for. We seek to work in partnership with our donors and other stakeholders.