

## **Connected By Hearts Code of Conduct and Waiver**

Connected By Hearts™ is an initiative of Parent Heart Watch, an Ohio nonprofit corporation and 501(c)(3) public charity. It is a peer support group, founded in 2011 by a group of young people who wanted to share their heart-related experiences with one another.

In order to participate in Connected By Hearts, either as a Heart Partner or as a Heart Peer, you must agree to the code of conduct and waiver below.

“Heart Partner” means a youth who has agreed to serve as a mentor to other youths dealing with a heart-related experience. Heart Partners are unpaid volunteers.

“Heart Peer” means a youth dealing with a heart-related experience who wants to participate in Connected By Hearts and connect with a Heart Partner.

### **Code of Conduct**

- Connected By Hearts is built on a foundation of mutual confidentiality, trust, and respect. Both Heart Partner and Heart Peer must respect any confidential information shared by the other.
- The Heart Partner may not act as a therapist or provide medical advice.
- The Heart Partner is encouraged to share personal experiences and offer advice as a mentor.
- The Heart Partner may choose the preferred mode of contact (such as email, text, or phone).
- Both the Heart Partner and Heart Peer will agree on the frequency of contact.
- Neither the Heart Partner nor Heart Peer may ask for or give the other any money or any gift of significant value.
- The Heart Partner and Heart Peer may only meet in person if both agree and meet in a public place. If either is under 18 years of age, then his or her parent or legal guardian must agree and be present.
- Either the Heart Partner or Heart Peer may terminate the relationship at any time, for any reason or no reason. If either party terminates the relationship, then neither may continue contact with the other. Termination should be reported to Parent Heart Watch. Either party may request reassignment to another Heart Partner or Heart Peer.
- Both the Heart Partner and Heart Peer will treat each other with respect. No bullying, harassment, or other inappropriate behavior of any kind will be tolerated.

- Both the Heart Partner and Heart Peer are encouraged to report any issues to Parent Heart Watch at [contact@parentheartwatch.org](mailto:contact@parentheartwatch.org) or 800-717-5828.
- Both the Heart Partner and Heart Peer should report any illegal or dangerous conduct to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

### Waiver

I would like to participate in the Connected By Hearts program. I agree to follow the Code of Conduct above. I understand and agree that Parent Heart Watch is not directly or indirectly responsible for the acts or omissions of Heart Partners or Heart Peers. I agree to release and hold harmless Parent Heart Watch, its directors, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, to the fullest extent permitted by law, with respect to any aspect of the Connected By Hearts program.

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Printed Name

[  ]  
Check here if under 18 years old

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date