



## AMERICAN PAIN FOUNDATION

# CORE VALUES

We at the American Pain Foundation are committed to fundamental values that govern our thinking and work.

**WE VALUE CARING AND COMPASSION.** We recognize that the most fundamental reason for our work is that we care about people. Our organization is here to make a difference in the lives of people affected by pain, because we care. We care about the individuals we serve, we care about each person on our team, and we work toward our mission in a caring and compassionate manner.

**WE VALUE KNOWLEDGE.** We know that the most effective way to serve people affected by pain is by applying the most current knowledge available. We are committed to best practice in both the pain management field and in the operation of our business.

**WE VALUE INTEGRITY.** We are committed to building trusting relationships with those we serve, those who support us, other organizations, and among ourselves. We recognize that this requires speaking and behaving openly and honestly in all areas of our work, and never acting in ways contrary to our mission. We are committed to doing what we intend and promise.

**WE VALUE DIVERSITY.** We know that the best way to reach and serve people affected by pain is to live the value of diversity. Best knowledge and best caring can only be accomplished with inclusiveness, openness, and cultural competence. We approach our work with an unwavering commitment to eradicating the prejudice, discrimination, and inequities that pervade our medical system and prevent people from getting the pain care they need.

**WE VALUE TEAM WORK AND COLLABORATION.** We understand that the enormous challenges of fulfilling our mission can only be accomplished by the work of many. We are committed to working collaboratively with each other, with our constituents, and with other organizations committed to the goal of improving pain management and helping people affected by pain get the care they need.

**WE VALUE LISTENING TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY PAIN.** Because people with pain are the experts on pain, we are committed to listening carefully to what they say about their experiences and needs, and we use that information to guide, inform, and grow our work.

**WE VALUE CREATIVITY AND OPENNESS TO NEW IDEAS.** We recognize that we are only at the beginning of our work and just learning how to better serve those affected by pain. We are committed to approaching our work creatively and boldly, with openness to new ideas, and without preconceived notions about how things should be done.

**WE VALUE JOY, HUMOR, AND ENTHUSIASM.** We recognize that the spirit in which we do our work is vital to the work itself. We know that joy, humor, and enthusiasm, keep our spirits lively through the difficult work we do. We encourage joy and humor in the workplace and sharing that joy with the people we serve.