

## Trekkers Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

Trekkers believes that every young person deserves the opportunity to thrive, regardless of race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, or background. We know, however, that this belief is not universal, and faces challenges every day. This has compelled us to solidify our values of inclusion, equity and diversity in the following statement.

## Relationships are our strength. Inclusion is the starting point.

We believe in the inherent strengths of young people. The mission and core beliefs of Trekkers fuel our commitment to promoting safe, positive and inclusive environments. Trekkers supports young people- of every race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic status, and faith – in reaching their full potential. Inherent strength starts with being yourself, all selves welcome.

At Trekkers we cultivate the inherent strengths of young people and consider identity as a strength. Our core value is to meet young people where they are, and recognize that identity is a journey for all people. Our organization works to offer a safe, positive environment for youth, staff, volunteers and families. It is a part of our broader mission to work towards a world where young people are physically and emotionally safe, healthy, and have the skills, resources, and relationships they need to thrive.

## **Core Beliefs and Values**

- Meet people where they are at
- Be comprehensive in our approach
- Understand development occurs over time
- Recognize that we cannot lead someone where we haven't gone ourselves
- Create the most safe and welcoming environment for all
- Commit to showing up, listening, reflecting, learning, and improving

## No matter your journey, Trekkers welcomes you onboard.