

## **JVC NORTHWEST ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY**

Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) Northwest engages women and men in a transforming experience of full-time volunteer service. Jesuit Volunteers (JVs) in the Northwest examine and act on the causes of social and environmental injustice to promote peace and structural change. We recognize that addiction has been and continues to be a destructive substance in families and communities around the world; therefore, we ask that serious reflection and covenantal action be taken in terms of alcohol use and that volunteers abstain from illegal drug use during their volunteer year.

It is the intent of the JVC Northwest staff to challenge all Jesuit Volunteers to:

- be aware of, reflect upon, discuss among themselves, and act intentionally with respect to the use of alcohol in relation to the JVC Northwest values;
- learn ways of socializing which do not involve alcohol;
- recognize abusive use of alcohol as contrary to living the JVC Northwest values; and,
- think critically about the relationship between living in solidarity with the communities you serve and how drugs and alcohol currently impact these communities.

**The policy of JVC Northwest regarding illegal drugs and alcohol is as follows:**

- **The use, sale and possession of illegal substances by a JV during the JVC Northwest program year is unacceptable.**
- **Alcohol and/or drugs will not be present at program events for current Jesuit Volunteers which JVC Northwest sponsors (Orientation, retreats, etc.).**
- **A JV will not buy alcohol or drugs with community money.**
- **Drinking or use of drugs by a JV which impairs judgment is unacceptable behavior in JVC Northwest.**
- **Volunteers living on reservations and in Bethel Alaska will commit to a dry year.**
- **If a JV abuses alcohol or drugs in a way that is destructive to him/herself and/or his/her community, the JV may be required to comply with one or more of the following: agree to a drug and alcohol assessment conducted by a professional identified by JVC Northwest, which may include a urinalysis, and agree to releasing the information to JVC Northwest; agree to and follow through with the recommendations of the assessment, entering into substance abuse counseling if necessary; abstain from alcohol and drugs for the remainder of the volunteer year; be dismissed from the JVC Northwest program.**
- **JVC Northwest reserves the right to determine if a JV can complete his/her volunteer year while in treatment for drug or alcohol addiction.**
- **Abusive behavior of any kind is not in keeping with the mission of JVC Northwest and may be grounds for dismissal from the program.**

JVC Northwest encourages JVs to reflect upon the drug and alcohol policy. JVC Northwest has adopted this policy because it conforms with criminal law in the five Northwest states, and because of our belief that the use, sale and possession of illegal substances, or abuse of alcohol, has harmful effects upon the volunteer, the volunteer's JV community, the volunteer's neighborhood, JVC Northwest, and the placement agency and clients.

**I have carefully read the Alcohol and Drug Policy. I agree to abide by this policy during my volunteer year with JVC Northwest.**

**Name: (please print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_