

# ROBERT W. WOODRUFF FOUNDATION

## STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The trustees and staff of the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation feel a strong sense of loyalty and obligation to Robert W. Woodruff, a man who embodied high standards and firm principles. Beyond the fiduciary and legal obligations to which every private foundation is subject, the trustees and staff of the Foundation are bound by a moral obligation to adhere to the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct in carrying out the continuing legacy of Mr. Woodruff. We commit ourselves to the following principles:

### **Donor Intent**

We honor and remain faithful to the legacy and the charitable intentions of Mr. Woodruff as expressed in his life and example, in his will and in the charter and bylaws of the Foundation.

### **Strict Adherence to Laws and Regulations**

We comply with the letter and spirit of all laws and regulations that govern the work of the Foundation and our policies and practices assure the avoidance of conflicts of interest, self-dealing and excessive compensation.

### **Highest Ethical Standards**

We avoid actions that give the perception of illegality, impropriety or anything less than the highest standards of ethical conduct.

### **Public Purpose**

We acknowledge that the Foundation exists to serve charitable purposes and commit ourselves to activities that benefit the public.

### **Prudent Fiscal Management**

We exercise prudent stewardship of the financial and other resources with which we have been entrusted.

### **Disclosure and Transparency**

We disclose information about our grantmaking guidelines and policies, grants, assets, financial transactions, governance and management.

### **Honest and Open Communications**

We strive to ensure that all our relationships with applicants, grantees, colleagues and the public are characterized by honesty, openness and fairness.

### **Professionalism and Respect**

We conduct business with humility and a commitment to treat everyone with courtesy, respect and dignity, pledging to be accessible, attentive and prompt in all communications with everyone with whom we have contact.