



DACCAAR Child Safeguarding Policy

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1. Introduction

1.1. DACAAR (Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees) recognizes the inherent vulnerability of children, particularly in contexts of conflict, displacement, and natural disasters. As a humanitarian and development organization deeply committed to the well-being of Afghan communities, DACAAR prioritizes the safety, protection, and rights of children in all its interventions. This Child Safeguarding Policy outlines the principles, procedures, and responsibilities to ensure the effective safeguarding of children involved in DACAAR's programs and activities as one of the key stakeholders.

1.2. This detailed policy outlines the comprehensive approach DACAAR takes towards safeguarding children, including specific roles, responsibilities, prevention, and response mechanisms. It underscores the organization's commitment to upholding the rights and well-being of children in all its programs and activities.

2. Policy Statement

2.1. DACAAR is committed to creating a safe and protective environment for all children with whom it interacts, including beneficiaries, community members, staff, and interns. We uphold the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and adhere to the highest standards of child protection, ensuring that children's rights are respected, promoted, and upheld in all our interventions.

3. Principles

3.1. **Best Interest of the Child:** DACAAR prioritizes the best interest of the child in all decision-making processes, interventions, and activities, ensuring that their welfare and safety are paramount.

3.2. **Non-Discrimination:** DACAAR opposes all forms of discrimination against children, irrespective of their race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, or any other status.

3.3. **Child Participation:** DACAAR recognizes children as active agents in their own protection and respects their right to express their views, participate in decisions affecting them, and be heard in matters concerning their safety and well-being.

3.4. **Confidentiality and Privacy:** DACAAR respects the privacy and confidentiality of children and ensures that information pertaining to them is handled with sensitivity and discretion.

3.5. **Accountability:** DACAAR holds itself accountable for ensuring the effective implementation of child safeguarding measures and responds promptly and appropriately to any concerns or allegations of child abuse or neglect.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

4.1. **The Governing Board:** Is responsible for providing leadership and strategic directions related to all the policies, procedures and guidelines related to child safeguarding issues.

4.2. **The Director:** Is responsible for providing strategic leadership and approving all the policies and procedures related to child safeguarding issues.

4.3. Senior Management Team: Senior management team (SMT) at DACAAR is responsible for providing strategic advice on child safeguarding issues, ensuring that adequate resources, policies, and procedures are in place to safeguard children effectively.

4.4. Child Safeguarding Focal Point: DACAAR designates Head of HR & Administration as Child Safeguarding Focal Point who is responsible for coordinating and overseeing all aspects of child safeguarding within the organization, including policy development, orientation/training, monitoring, and response to safeguarding concerns.

4.5. Staff and interns: All staff and interns of DACAAR are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the organization's Child Safeguarding Policy, adhering to its principles and procedures, and reporting any safeguarding concerns promptly and appropriately.

4.6. Implementing partners and Vendors: All the implementing partners and vendors shall sign and adhere to child safeguarding clauses which shall be an integral part of all the contract issued by DACAAR. The child safeguarding clauses are also stipulated during the Expressions of Interests/Request for Proposals.

4.7. Community Engagement: DACAAR engages with communities to raise awareness about child safeguarding principles and promote community participation in creating safe environments for children. Community members are encouraged to report any safeguarding concerns to DACAAR staff or designated focal points (Field Officer).

5. Prevention and Response Mechanisms

5.1. Recruitment and Screening: DACAAR implements rigorous recruitment and screening processes for staff and interns, including background checks and reference verification, to ensure that individuals working with children are suitable and trustworthy.

5.2. Training and Capacity Building: DACAAR provides comprehensive training on child safeguarding to all staff and interns, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and awareness necessary to identify, prevent, and respond to child protection risks effectively.

5.3. Reporting Mechanisms: DACAAR establishes clear and accessible reporting mechanisms for staff, interns, beneficiaries, and community members to report safeguarding concerns confidentially and without fear of reprisal. Reports are promptly and impartially investigated, and appropriate action is taken in line with DACAAR's policies and procedures.

5.4. Support Services: DACAAR ensures that children affected by abuse, neglect, or exploitation have access to appropriate support services in our areas of intervention and report to specialized agencies as needed.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

6.1. DACAAR SMT conducts regular monitoring and evaluation of its child safeguarding policies, procedures, and practices to assess their effectiveness and identify areas for improvement.

6.2. Feedback and Learning: DACAAR SMT solicits feedback from staff, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders on the implementation of child safeguarding measures and incorporates lessons learned into ongoing capacity-building efforts and policy revisions.

7. Compliance and Review

7.1. DACAAR commits to complying with all relevant national and international laws, regulations, and standards pertaining to child protection and safeguarding.

7.2. This Child Safeguarding Policy is subject to periodic review and revision, within a span of not more than three years, to ensure its continued relevance, effectiveness, and alignment with evolving best practices and legal requirements.

8. Conclusion


8.1. DACAAR reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the protection and well-being of children and pledges to uphold the highest standards of child safeguarding in all aspects of its work. By prioritizing the best interest of the child, fostering a culture of accountability and transparency, and engaging with communities as active partners in child protection, DACAAR strives to create safe and nurturing environments where children can thrive and reach their full potential.

Dear All,

Hereby I approve the revised version the Child Safeguarding Policy.

This policy is contained of 5 pages.

Best Regards



John Mores, DACAAR, Director

