

# **BYLAWS**

## **Jerusalem Rape Crisis Center in memory of co-founding member Linda Feldman**

**Israeli Non-profit n. 580001261**

### **Article I – Corporate Purpose**

The organization is dedicated to helping survivors of sexual violence through emotional support, accompaniment through health care and legal proceedings, providing referrals and information about treatment centers and therapeutic professionals. Moreover, the organization does outreach work to bring upon social change and change misconceptions and myths about sexual abuse and its survivors in society.

#### **Specific Objectives:**

- (1) Providing support for survivors of sexual abuse and their families.
- (2) Advancing respect and equality between the sexes through sexual violence prevention education programs.
- (3) Improving the services given to survivors, mostly in criminal and therapeutic settings, and facilitating the process of claiming their rights in different channels.

### **Article II – Membership**

#### **(A) Eligibility for Membership**

1. Membership may be open to those who meet all the following conditions:
  - a. Finished a course at the JRCC or one of the other rape crisis center in Israel.
  - b. Volunteered in the organization for at least 4 months in the last year.
  - c. Registered as a member and paid the annual membership fee.
2. If a prospective member did not go through a volunteers course, they can be members under one of the following conditions:
  - a. Is currently a member of Forum Exist at the JRCC.
  - b. Went through a volunteers course in the past but did not volunteer in the past year.

- c. Is part of the supporting community of the JRCC and applied for membership to the board of directors. Members of the supporting community are individuals who want to advance the JRCCs' mission through volunteers or professional work.
3. The board of directors reserves the right to decline any membership; in writing.
4. A prospective member that was declined membership has the right to appeal within 30 days of the decision to a special appeal committee.

**(B) Annual Dues**

- a. Members will be allowed to register twice a year, prior to a general assembly.
- b. The yearly membership fee of 30 NIS has to be paid in full a week prior to the general assembly, at least.

**(C) Rights and obligations of members**

- a. A member is allowed one vote in each general assembly, if they registered and paid the membership fees as noted in section (B).
- b. A member is obligated to take part in one general assembly a year, at least.
- c. A volunteer at the JRCC, that has not been registered as a member of the organization, may join the general assemblies, but has no voting right.
- d. Both members and volunteers are obligated to work throughout the year to advance the mission of the JRCC in the Jerusalem Area.

**(D) Resignation and Termination**

1. A membership is terminated under one of the following conditions:
  - a. At the death of the member.
  - b. At the retirement of the member from the volunteering at the JRCC.
  - c. If the annual fees are not paid as noted in section (B).
  - d. By termination as follows:
    - i. The general assembly has the right to terminate a membership, based upon a motion from the Board of directors or a motion by 10% of the members of the organization, on the basis of one of the following:

1. The member is not following the bylaws and ethical code of the organization.
  2. The member is acting in contrast with the organizations' mission and policy.
- ii. The board of directors will notify the member, in writing, of their intention to terminate their membership 30 days in advance. The member has the right to defend themselves to the board, prior the motion to the general assembly.
  - iii. If the termination motion is filed by members, as noted in clause (D)i, the member will have the opportunity of defense in front of the general assembly.

### **Article III – General Assembly**

- (A) General assemblies of the members shall take place twice a year, at least, time and location of which will be designed by the board of directors. At the annual meeting the members shall elect board members, receive reports on the activities of the association, and determine the direction of the association for the coming year.
- (B) Notice of assemblies will be sent out in writing, at least 10 days prior, and will include the assembly's' agenda.
- (C) The assembly's authority is:
- a. Discussing the Board of directors' annual work.
  - b. Discussing and approving the Financial report, once a year.
  - c. Voting on new members of the Board of directors and the Audit committee.
- (D) A Quorum for an assembly of the members shall consist of at least 1/3 of the active membership or at least 20 of the members.
- (E) A member is allowed to vote remotely based on a vote in writing to be send prior the assembly to a board member.
- (F) All issues to be voted on shall be decided by a simple majority of those present at the meeting in which the vote takes place.
- (G) A protocol will be written to represent all discussion in the general assembly.

#### **Article IV – Board of directors**

The affairs of the JRCC shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have control of and be responsible for setting the policy and yearly priorities of the organization, the management of the affairs and electing staff members.

- (A) The number of Directors shall be no less than five nor more than seven including the following officers: The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- (B) At least two directors will be from the Education Department at the JRCC.
- (C) At least two directors will be from the Support Department at the JRCC.
- (D) The number of men on the board of directors cannot exceed one.
- (E) Eligibility to join the board:
  - i. A member can present their nomination to the board after six months of volunteers work in the last year, at least.
  - ii. The names of all candidates will be posted along with a cover letter, at least 7 days prior to the general assembly.
  - iii. Once a year, the tenure of the existing board will be put to a vote.
- (F) Term of office of each director is 36 months from the day they were voted into office.
- (G) A board member may be stripped of duties, under one of the following conditions:
  - i. Their JRCC membership has not been renewed.
  - ii. By expulsion from the JRCC by the vote of the general assembly.
  - iii. If during term of office they were convicted of an offense, by the court.
  - iv. If they become paid personnel or freelancers for the JRCC.
- (E) The board will meet once a month, at least.
- (F) All board meetings are open for members and volunteers, unless stated otherwise.
- (G) A quorum in board meetings is at least four directors.
- (H) The executive director of the JRCC shall take part in board meetings as a representative of the professional staff.
- (I) All issues to be voted on shall be decided by a simple majority of those present at the meeting in which the vote takes place.

- (J) A protocol will be written to summarize all discussions and will be available for members and volunteers to view within 15 days of the meeting.

#### **Article V – Audit Committee**

The committee shall supervise the proper management of the JRCC, including but not limited to supervising financial statements, the execution of general assembly decisions, overseeing work procedures and more.

- (A) The committee will be voted upon once a year during the general assembly.
- (B) The committee will consist of at least two members and at most three members.
- (C) The committee may consist of one male member, at the most.
- (D) A member of the JRCC that has been a volunteer for at least six months may present themselves as candidates to this committee.
- (E) A member of the Audit committee shall stay in office for three years, at most.
- (F) A board member may be stripped of duties, under one of the following conditions:
  - i. Their JRCC membership has not been renewed.
  - ii. By expulsion from the JRCC by the vote of the general assembly.
  - iii. If during term of office they were convicted of an offense, by the court.
  - iv. If they become paid personnel or freelancers for the JRCC.
- (G) The Audit Committee will meet once every three months, at least.

**END**