

Spotlight on the Code of Ethics:

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The watermark of honor for any institution is the code, which its members dutifully strive to uphold. We express with our codes a proud declaration of what we stand for, what we fight for, and what we hope to be. As Charles Taylor writes, such codes give us an identity in which we can determine where we stand on questions of what is good, worthwhile, admirable, and of value. Therefore, it is with no small measure that we receive the sixth standard of the AAMA Code of Ethics upon our heart:

Standard Number Six: “Members will respect the dignity of all, the rights and beliefs of others, and will not discriminate against others because of race, gender, age or creed”

Our most common link is found neither in our profession nor the degrees which grace our walls. In the final analysis, we are all fragile men and women who stumble through the darkness, clinging to each other’s coattails in search of a guiding light. Our common link is this: we are all human, and we are all in need of one another. The Sixth Standard, therefore, is an affirmation that our common link is greater than our petty differences.

We as a people continue to be reminded of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. History will record that such events were inspired by those motivated by hateful intolerance and a narrow view of humanity. We, as fortunate survivors of that day of infamy, must oblige ourselves to live lives dedicated to preserving dignity and respect for one another; we must, as the world’s greatest philosopher commanded, love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

There is no greater honor than to honor one another. As members of the American Academy of Medical Administrators, we are already set apart for a special purpose and calling in our nation. Because of our great calling, we are more than an organization – we are a family. Let us live this calling guided by the convictions of a family of honorable academics and professionals; let us live with respect for the dignity of all.