



**APPLICATION, WAIVER AND
CONSENT FORM**



Application, Waiver and Consent Form

The Guardian Angels requires all applicants to complete the application before you can be accepted into the organization.

The Guardian Angels requires all trainees to sign a waiver before training begins.

All new recruits are required to:

1. Fill out an application. Although the Guardian Angels have one of the most open acceptance policies, we do not accept people with certain serious criminal convictions and violent, illegal, or discriminatory affiliations. You will also not be asked your age, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, religion, political views, or sexual orientation. You will be asked about any disability that may interfere with your ability to safely patrol or participate in training exercises.
2. Sign and state a pledge to conduct yourself in an honorable and professional manner.
3. Read and review the Respect Guidelines and Rules and Regulations.

The Guardian Angels requires the parents of all members of the Guardian Angels under 18 years of age to sign a waiver and consent forms before any training may commence.

All Guardian Angel recruits are subjected to sign our pledge, successfully pass all training, and master guidelines upon becoming a member of our organization. Please add as much detail about yourself along with your resume to make the application process efficient before you're interviewed. Guardian Angels has the right to immediately remove any member who fails to comply with our pledge and guidelines.

Introduction to the Guardian Angels

MISSION STATEMENT

The Alliance of Guardian Angels is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 1979 in New York City, New York. Our mission is to provide positive role models for today's youth and work toward promoting community safety and betterment for the good of society overall.

We accomplish our mission through training volunteers, who are multi racial, to be effective as visual deterrents patrolling the streets in communities around the world. Our emphasis is on coordinating a variety of community-based services, programs and activities to speak out and mentor communities to stand against violence, crime and drugs.

PHILOSOPHY

Our philosophy is to empower individuals through service to others. An empowered society is built through empowering individuals one at a time. We train people to take constructive and cooperative action to solve individual and social problems. We provide people with the tools, support, and opportunities to face their unique challenges and fulfill their unique interests and goals. We are unlike any other organization in the breadth and depth of empowering skills we develop.

Our focus is on building relationships whether interpersonal or organizational. We are one of the few organizations in the world to open our doors to people regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, disability, religion, political view, and sexual orientation. We are a "street-roots" organization that provides hope, security, and opportunity to those who are otherwise forgotten, oppressed, harassed, discriminated against, disenfranchised, set back, or impoverished.

Guardian Angels Programs

The Guardian Angels are dedicated to fostering safer, stronger, and more compassionate communities through volunteer-driven initiatives. We serve those in need by organizing homeless feedings, mentoring youth through positive leadership programs, offering self-defense courses, and conducting unarmed community patrols to ensure the safety of seniors and vulnerable individuals. Each regional chapter is assigned a chapter leader who will oversee all actions of their chapter, in coordination with the organization's leadership.

Becoming a Guardian Angel

PATROL TRAINING

Patrol training is a comprehensive and empowering experience. You will be trained in three general areas: 1) Patrol (self defense), 2) Psyc-Comm (mental health empowerment), and 3) Homeless Outreach training. Our Angel manual will cover each of these areas. Your training will encompass all chapters found in our Angel manual. You **may be given** the option of patrolling on your very first day.

You may be dressed in your normal civilian attire, but you must wear your beret with a Guardian Angels jacket. Observe, listen and learn. You may leave the patrol whenever you wish. If an incident arises, stay with your trainer, do exactly what he or she says. You are expected to stand back and observe unless you possess any advanced medical training.

If you wish to patrol, you will start out as an “I Support.” This means that you are a trainee. Although, you are not a “Safety Patrol” member, you are a Guardian Angel. Whenever you wear a red beret and a Guardian Angels shirt, you are a Guardian Angels volunteer and represent this organization.

The Guardian Angels Training Program

You must consistently train and patrol for approximately three months and pass two examinations to become a Safety Patrol Member.

Safety Patrol Member

Becoming a Safety Patrol Member is a true honor and distinguishes you in this organization. We have a proud tradition among the Angel ranks. Not only does an Angel possess the basic skills and knowledge for patrolling, but an Angel must also exhibit personal courage, discipline, and integrity. About one in ten recruits have what it takes to become a Guardian Angel. One in ten recruits are capable of withstanding the public pressure, risks, hazards, attention, scrutiny, training, challenges, and tests. All others quit or fail.

The challenge of becoming an Angel is not so much about-facing external obstacles and threats. When you become an Angel, it is truly your choice and accomplishment. For many other programs, the fear of being punished or fired motivates participants to stay. The true battlefield for becoming an Angel is fought in your mind. The best example of this camaraderie occurs when you travel to other chapters, even chapters in other countries. It is a feeling like visiting relatives. There is an instant trust bond that runs as deep as blood. You know that your fellow Guardian Angel whether Japanese or British, Muslim or atheist, Puerto Rican or Asian has experienced the same kinds of training and situations on the streets. You know that if he is your partner, they will protect your life as their own.

Benefits of Becoming a Guardian Angel

On patrol, the question always arises: Why should I risk my life and not get paid for it? Not getting paid for it is actually a good thing. It simply means that what you are doing is based on a purer motive, not to get a paycheck, but to truly help others without expecting any material reward in return.

But there are many more important and fascinating benefits:

1. **Exercise and conditioning.** Patrolling requires walking, and training requires physical exertion.
2. **Getting to know your city.** On patrol, you learn a lot about your city. You find the hidden nooks and crannies. You learn about new restaurants, bars, and stores. In talking with local merchants, you may also learn a little history.
3. **Getting to know the people in your city.** In modern day society, more and more people feel disconnected and alienated from their communities. We have built an automobile nation where the most interaction you get is either making or receiving obscene gestures. On patrol and at special events, you meet people face to face. You become connected to the interests, needs, concerns, and ideas in your community. Whereas people are afraid to approach strangers, many people are unafraid to approach us.
4. **Relationship-building.** Meeting a lot of people is one thing. Developing reliable and trusting relationships is another. On patrol, you exercise your relationship-building skills not only with strangers but also among other patrol members. You learn that disrespect, dishonesty, selfishness, and insensitivity not only destroy relationships, they put you and your patrol in danger. You learn that respect, integrity, selflessness, and compassion help others to trust and value you.
5. **Helping others.** Today, many Americans donate money to charitable causes. While donating money is noble, it is difficult to sense and experience how your hard work is helping others. As a Guardian Angel, you interact directly with those you help. Not only does that make you instantly feel better about yourself, it also improves your sense of value and importance. Many people fail in life, because they betray their own interests by conveying a sense of worthlessness and irrelevance.
6. **Personal safety.** Most of the Guardian Angels lessons do not cease to apply once you take your beret off. They can and should be applied to all aspects of your life. One of the most important skills is personal safety. As a Guardian Angel, you learn to build safe relationships, and you also learn to stay safe on your own.
7. **Problem-solving.** As a Guardian Angel, you are a problem solver. You solve problems whether on patrol, working with troubled youth, or dealing with a surge in crime and violence. You develop problem-solving skills and learn how to involve

- people in solving their own problems. At the same time, you inevitably learn how to solve your own problems.
8. **Resourcing.** On patrol, it is important to greet, get to know, listen to, and build relationships with people. This is the definition of networking and resourcing. Many times unemployed members have found jobs on patrol. In today's economy, the emphasis is on relationships and service instead of productivity and volume. As a Guardian Angel you learn the very skills that are being taught in expensive corporate workshops and seminars.
 9. **Leadership.** Every patrol Guardian Angel will be a Patrol Leader. You will learn to not only accept but also appreciate the heavy responsibility of protecting the lives of every member on that patrol. How many leaders ever get to experience that level of responsibility? If you have a supervisor, this teaches you to empathize with her responsibilities and demands. If you supervise others, it teaches you the importance of being a reliable, trustworthy, decisive, and strong leader.
 10. **Exposure to diversity.** As a Guardian Angel, you will likely meet and work with more people of different ages, races, income classes, religions, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and ideologies than at any other job, school, or organization. One of the most important lessons in this global economy is understanding and appreciating the fundamental similarities as well as the individual uniqueness of humanity. There is perhaps no greater symbol of global unity than a patrol with people of different nationalities, races, and religions all willing to protect the lives of each other as their own.
 11. **Empowerment of Self and Community:** Like with many ideals, words can easily be thrown around and proclaimed. As a Guardian Angel, words are always put to the test on the streets. On patrol, being dishonorable is a palpable threat to the safety and lives of every patrol member. If you are always on the side of respecting and helping others, you will act and talk with more conviction and confidence, more people will listen to and support you, fewer people will feel threatened and resentful, and you will be safer.

When you volunteer, your focus is shifted from your own problems to others and the community. You are gaining confidence, building morale, and learning to value your abilities and self. Not to mention making contacts throughout the community while on patrol.



Guardian Angels Pledge

- ☸ I hereby pledge as a member of the Guardian Angels to work toward promoting community safety and betterment for the good of society overall.
- ☸ I hereby pledge to come to the aid of any person in need.
- ☸ I hereby pledge to respect and protect all people regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, nationality, religion, disability, income, political view, or sexual orientation.
- ☸ I hereby pledge to follow the rules and regulations of the Guardian Angels.
- ☸ I hereby pledge that although I will wear colors only during Guardian Angels functions, I will never-the-less try to behave like a Guardian Angel at all times.
- ☸ I hereby pledge to honor and uphold the just laws of the country in which I volunteer as a Guardian Angel and to honor and defend the constitution of my country of citizenship.
- ☸ I hereby accept the responsibility of projecting a positive image for the people and particularly the youth of my community.
- ☸ I hereby pledge to respect my fellow Guardian Angels as equals and to look out for their welfare and safety at all times.

This pledge is made with full awareness of the discipline and integrity required to fulfill these commitments. I willingly accept and agree to uphold these vows to the best of my abilities.

Print Name _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Witness _____

Date _____ Signature _____



Guardian Angels Respect Guidelines

Understanding the Value of Respect

Whether Aretha Franklin sings about it or Rodney Dangerfield seeks it, respect is one of the most fundamental building blocks of relationship building. Respect simply means that you find value in others as well as yourself. When we value something, we protect, nurture, and attend to it. Things that are not valued are destroyed, disposed of, or simply neglected. When we show respect for people, we are telling them that we believe they can be of great value to us. By demanding respect from them, we are also telling them we can be of great value to them. Once both sides find value in each other, they develop a relationship.

The Guardian Angels mission is to empower people, and nothing empowers people more than building reliable and trustworthy relationships. It is therefore of greatest importance that we start out every single point of contact with respect, and we uphold and protect that respect throughout all future interactions.

Disrespect: Devaluation Tactics

When people disrespect others, they focus on three main areas. They are basically saying: You are of no value to me because: 1) There is something wrong with you, you do not function properly, 2) You are not good enough, you are inept or ignorant, or 3) You do not fit in. Almost all insults and slights are rooted in these three elements of devaluation. If people say that you are malfunctioning, they may use words like moron, retard, cripple, psycho, or crazy. If they say that you are deficient, they use words like stupid, ignorant, fat, loser, or slow. If they are saying that you are an outcast, they use words like weird, bizarre, freak, or use racial, sexist, or homophobic slurs. The Guardian Angels do not permit any kind of devaluation tactic.

Respect Guidelines

1. **Respect everyone** regardless of his or her race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, nationality, political views, or sexual orientation.
2. **Respect each other** regardless of rank or program. For example, Safety's should not look down upon or ignore Cyber Guardian Angels and vice versa. A regional leader should not look down upon or ignore an I Support.
3. **Respect the Patrol Leader.** All orders must be obeyed. Do not question the Patrol Leader unless you believe life is in danger.
4. **Respect recruits.** They are our future, and we were all there before wondering if this was the right thing for us. Introduce yourself, shake their hands, and thank them for volunteering.
5. **Respect the instructor.** Give the instructor your undivided attention. Ask questions.
6. **Respect students.** Instructors should answer questions and allow students to provide feedback. Do not belittle or berate them.
7. **Respect law enforcement.** You may have experienced unfriendly or rude behavior from police officers in the past, but do not blame all of them. They are our ultimate back up if we are in need. Wave at all passing officers.
8. **Respect yourself** and your interests, goals, needs, concerns, opinions, and ideas. Speak up and speak clearly. Be positive. Look people in the eye. Maintain your personal hygiene. Do not be guilty of malodorous emanations. Keep fit and healthy. Exercise your mind.
9. **Respect the colors.** Do not wear creases, faded colors, or stains. Fold your shirts neatly. Shape your beret. Clean and shine your boots.
10. **Respect the Guardian Angels.** You may not agree with the Chapter Leader. You may not like your chapter, but the ideals and principles of the Guardian Angels lie in your heart and mind.
11. **Respect your family.** Do not come out on patrol if you have a family member in need. Become a dependable, responsible family member even if your family is not.
12. **Respect school.** No matter how difficult or boring your teachers are, respect the lessons and ideas. You don't have to agree with them. Do not skip school to patrol; you will be cut.
13. **Respect your job.** Your job allows you the luxury of volunteering. It feeds, clothes, and shelters you. No matter how hard your boss is or how seemingly pointless the work, do the best job you can. Do not skip work or refuse overtime in order to patrol.
14. **Respect your community.** Today, people complain about crime, traffic, pollution, poor quality of life, blight, ghettos, and taxes. Few people, however, feel obligated to participate in community affairs to help solve these problems. As a result, they feel victimized and detached. Community involvement means you value your community enough to attend to its needs and concerns.
15. **Respect your country and constitution.** Your nation may have made serious mistakes along the way, but there is no way to change it unless citizens become more involved in the decision making process. A true patriot does not sit idly by and watch his nation falter. A true patriot speaks out and acts out. A true patriot also protects the constitution.

If someone is being disrespectful toward you, tell him first and give him a chance to explain or apologize. Do not complain about him to others. If he fails to at least acknowledge your feelings, use mediation.

What Not to Do

1. Do not tease, insult, or disrespect anyone, ever.
2. Do not allow anyone to tease, insult, or disrespect you.
3. Do not lie or guess if you do not know.
4. Do not order people around unless you are the Patrol Leader. Do not bark orders unless life is in danger.
5. Do not chew people out for making mistakes.
6. Do not laugh at or make fun of a member if he makes a mistake.
7. Do not insult, argue, or bicker with each other on patrol. Disagreements should be handled after patrol, one-on-one, or with a mediator.
8. Do not play politics and try to suck up to leaders or ostracize any member.

9. Do not smoke while walking or with your beret on.
10. Do not spit.
11. Do not swear.
12. Do not litter.
13. Do not throw or kick things around for fun.
14. Do not challenge anyone to a fight or threaten bodily harm.

15. Do not spread malicious gossip or speak poorly of others inside or outside the group.
16. Do not be negative and cynical.
17. Do not criticize or complain unless you have addressed the person first and offered to be part of the solution.
18. Do not talk about sexual matters unless it is medically appropriate.

19. Do not look down on the homeless and do not suck up to the rich or famous.
20. Do not make fun of or point out a person's accent, ticks, strange mannerisms, apparel, style, customs, or deformities.
21. Do not laugh at, point to, or joke about gay people, transvestites, or anyone with any kind of unconventional or alternative lifestyle.
22. Do not tease, harass, or play mind games with those intoxicated or mentally disabled.
23. Do not stare at, point to, or fraternize with people dressed provocatively.
24. Do not hit on people during patrol.
25. Do not talk condescending to anyone including youth and seniors. Do not try to use slang unless you regularly use it.
26. Do not assume that groups of youth are up to no good or a gang especially if they are minorities. Do not post up on them unless they are causing a disturbance.
27. Do not assume that all loiterers are drug dealers or up to no good especially if they are minorities.



Guardian Angels Rules, Regulations, and Rights

Members must agree to abide by our principles of respect for others and anti-violence.

1. Membership in the Guardian Angels is open to everyone regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion or national origin.
2. Members must be at least 16 years old (to patrol). There is no upper age limit.
3. Any applicant convicted of a felony shall only be allowed membership with approval from the regional or national office. Applicants with criminal offenses on their records will be considered on an individual basis, considering the severity of the crime, the date of offense, and applicant's present lifestyle.
4. No person found to be presently addicted to alcohol or drugs shall be considered for membership.
5. The Guardian Angel uniform consists of a red beret and a shirt and jacket with insignia.
6. Uniforms are only to be worn while at a Guardian Angels function or while conducting Guardian Angels business.
7. All uniforms will be provided by the Guardian Angels and remain the property of the Guardian Angels at all times.
8. These articles are forbidden from being brought into a Guardian Angels office or carried on patrol: A) any weapon B) alcohol/drugs or paraphernalia C) pornography and other offensive materials.
9. All members shall be searched for forbidden articles when entering the Guardian Angels office and before going on patrol.
10. Members are not permitted to visit the Guardian Angels office while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
11. Active or passive racism, sexism, homophobia, or sexual harassment is not permitted.
12. No sexual or intimate relationships are allowed between trainees and others in the group (unless the relationship existed before membership).
13. After graduation, relationships among peers must be conducted in a professional manner while volunteering with the Guardian Angels.

14. All members must abide by the organization's guidelines concerning respect for others.
15. All members are required to abide by the principles of the Guardian Angels whether in or out of uniform.

YOUR RIGHTS

You have a right:

1. To be treated with respect.
2. To be treated in a fair and equal manner.
3. To be heard.
4. To protect your safety.
5. To disagree (except on patrol).
6. To ask questions.
7. To protect your personal space.
8. Not to be touched.
9. Not to be threatened with physical harm or injury.

To Protect and Uphold the Law

We always treat everyone with respect, courtesy, and professionalism, without public and community support, we have no chance. We must not only win the minds of the community, we must win their hearts.

We must show everyone that we are human beings who deeply care about the welfare of others. If we are attacked, we will protect ourselves with minimal force necessary. Even if a hundred people have hurled insults at you on patrol, still treat that hundred and first person with total respect and friendliness.



Guardian Angels Discrimination and Harassment Policies

Discrimination and harassment are prohibited based on: age, ancestry, national origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, physical disability, mental disability, marital status, age, or political affiliation or views.

Volunteers with certain disabilities may be excluded from certain jobs if the disability precludes the volunteer from performing the essential functions of the job and no reasonable accommodation exists that would enable the volunteer to perform the essential functions of the job, or the volunteer would create an imminent and substantial danger to him/herself or a substantial danger to others by performing the job and that no reasonable accommodation exists that would remove or reduce the danger.

Sexual harassment is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to: unwanted sexual advances and propositions, offering benefits in exchange for sexual favors, making or threatening reprisals after a negative response to sexual advances, leering, sexual gestures, display of sexually suggestive objects or images, distribution of sexual written material, discussion of sexual orientation, sexual slurs, inappropriate reference to sexual body parts, and inappropriate touching or impeding.

Physical, mental, and violent harassment is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to: humiliation, embarrassment, rite of passage hazing, initiations, insults, yelling, and issuing physical exercise as punishment, pain, torture, nudity, mutilation, or scarring.

Intense physical exercise, however, is required of all patrol volunteers. Additionally, mock situations will simulate physical, mental, and violent harassment in order to train volunteers to handle such harassment. Volunteers may refuse to participate in mock situations with no negative impact on their standing or qualifications for promotion. Mock situations, however, will **never** involve sexual or discriminatory harassment.

The Guardian Angels has the right to exclude from membership those who have been prosecuted for serious and/or recent crimes or are affiliated with any criminal organization or organization that promotes violence and discrimination.



Guardian Angels Code of Ethics and Conduct

Special Responsibility

The Guardian Angels is a unique organization that works hard to build trust and credibility within the community. Our goal is to exemplify responsible, ethical, compassionate, and law-abiding behavior. Consequently, our behavior is more closely scrutinized than most other organizations. At the same time, by behaving in any lesser manner, we are simply not achieving our goal.

Appearance of Impropriety

As role models and visual deterrents to crime, we must be especially conscious of any appearance of impropriety. While we may not be violating any rules or ethics, we may do something in public that may be negatively misconstrued. For instance, a member may be able to afford to wear expensive gold chains and rings and wear designer clothes. There is nothing wrong with this, however, if he decides to patrol or work in an especially impoverished neighborhood, this display may offend people. People in this neighborhood may also associate these items with gang affiliation.

Use of Guardian Angels Property

All property donated to the Guardian Angels belongs to the Guardian Angels and is only to be used for Guardian Angels related business. A donated headquarters is not a free motel for relatives and friends. Do not make long distance telephone calls to friends and relatives. Do not use a donated vehicle to go cruising or drop your kids off at the babysitter.

Politics and Religion

By federal law the Guardian Angels cannot affiliate itself with any political party. Members are prohibited from conducting political or religious activities in uniform, during official business, or using Guardian Angels property or equipment. Members are also prohibited from trying to recruit other members or the public into their political or religious affiliations. Guardian Angels should refrain from discussing their political or religious views with other Guardian Angels or the public while in uniform or involved in official business.

Political or Social Rallies or Demonstrations

The Guardian Angels may participate in rallies or demonstrations that promote the welfare of the community that are not politically charged.

Donations

Members cannot collect any form of donation while on patrol. The leadership is responsible for fundraising.

“Whistle Blower” Protection

Anyone who follows internal procedure and reports a violation of ethics, rules, or regulations will be protected from retaliation including but not limited to change of duties, demotion, exclusion from activities, and harassment. As defenders of honor and morality, it is the duty of every Guardian Angel to confront and eliminate any type of unethical and unlawful behavior even when perpetrated by other members.



Guardian Angels Color Guidelines

Beret Shaping

1. Shave off all lint on outside and most on the inside.
2. TO SHRINK: Fill sink with hot water. Immerse all of beret except backing in hot water. Wring slightly then throw in dryer on high heat until dry.
3. TO SIZE: After shrinking (if needed) you should not need the adjustment string - pull it out. If you still need it, adjust beret to proper position (1 inch above eyebrows, parallel to ground) and tighten but not too tight. Tie square knot. Cut loose ends as close as you can to knot. Melt ends with match. Idea is to make it appear as if there is no string.
4. TO SHAPE: Dip in hot water, keeping backing out as before. Wring slightly then position beret correctly on head. If you are right handed, the beret should fold over the right ear. If you are left handed, it folds over the left ear.
5. If you are right handed, hold flash centered over left eye with left hand while smoothing beret over right side of head with right hand. Ensure that the fold in front runs cleanly from the corner of the center to the right side of the beret.
6. Once you have formed the beret, remove carefully from head and try to preserve the shape. Set aside and let it dry. Repeat 2-3 times until beret holds shape.

Beret Wearing

- Wear your beret with pride. It should always be properly shaped and clean.
- Never allow your beret to touch the ground.
- Never touch another Guardian Angel's beret without asking first.
- Do not eat, smoke, or sleep with your beret on.
- Wear your beret at all times except when inside a courtroom or religious building.
- When the American anthem is played, do not remove your beret. Place your right hand over your heart. If you are outdoors, you may salute the flag.

Respecting the Colors

All apparel with the Guardian Angels logo should be respected and treated well. In addition to this, the Angel shirt and jacket should never be dropped or lie on the ground. Never wear dirty, ripped, or stained colors. If you have a permanently stained or unwearable shirt, it should be burned not thrown in the garbage.



Guardian Angels What We Are Not

Police

By no means are we trying to take over or do the police's job. The police deal with emergency crime calls and extremely dangerous situations. Our job is to organize, inspire, train, educate, and empower communities and individuals. Enforcing the law on the streets is only one of our tasks. Our focus is on prevention not reaction. The police do not have the time nor interest in spending a lot of time talking with the public on the streets. Their goal is to control and command potentially violent situations. Our goal is to communicate and collaborate to prevent violent situations.

The police mainly focus on public safety issues. Our focus is broader and involves improving the quality of life of communities and individuals. Our goal is not only to make communities safe, it is also to empower communities and individuals, by teaching, upholding, and exercising values.

The Guardian Angels also tend to come directly from the communities we serve. Traditionally, we have been more ethnically diverse; however, the police have made great improvements in opening up toward people of all backgrounds.

Security

Most all security are paid private employees. They answer to their employers not the public. Their priorities are the employer, his property, and his customers not the public. Their authority only covers their private property. They are not even allowed to assist the public across the street. Their training may be minimal. Their public relations and conflict resolution skills may be minimal. They are usually armed at least with large flashlights and pepper spray. For many of them, their job is limited to calling a supervisor if anything unusual happens on property.

Most Other Non-Profit Groups

We have a worldwide network, name, and reputation. We teach and practice values. We often recruit from some of the poorest communities. Many of our volunteers are young adults who would never otherwise volunteer. We are extremely cost effective and keep our administrative costs exceptionally low. Training is continual. We come into contact with the people we serve. Most of our activities occur in the field in the communities we serve. We have one of the most open membership policies in the world. Our members represent an incredibly diverse range of race, age, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, and political view.

Vigilantes

The Guardian Angels are not now nor have they ever been **Vigilantes**. Vigilantes take the law into their own hands. **The Guardian Angels do not.** Vigilantes are the judge, jury, and

executioners. **The Guardian Angels are not.** Vigilantes do not call the police. **The Guardian Angels do.** Vigilantes inflict unnecessary pain, injury, and even death upon their victims. **The Guardian Angels do not.** Vigilantes do not consider themselves accountable to the public. **The Guardian Angels do.** Vigilantes neither respect the law nor authority. **The Guardian Angels do.** Vigilantes usually act out on some vendetta against an individual, family, or group. **The Guardian Angels do not.** The focus of Vigilantes is not the betterment of the community but the persecution and destruction of their enemies.

Political

The Guardian Angels focus on non-violence and working with the community and authority. We try to be politically neutral; however, we may become involved in any human rights, justice, criminal, or equality issues. We believe in peaceful and non-violent protest and negotiations. We do not persecute or target any group of people except those who promote violence and destruction. We do not break the law to further our cause or gain publicity.

Gangs

Gangs break the law, sell and use drugs, and condemn authority. They promote destruction, intoxication, fighting, and selfish behavior. They ridicule, harass, and denigrate women and gays. They assault, harass, and threaten innocent people. They are often armed.

Cults

We do not use coercive, deceptive means to indoctrinate members. We protect the rights of all members. We do not attempt to isolate members from their communities, family, friends, and coworkers. We believe it is more important for members to choose to enhance their attitudes and beliefs than be forced.



The Guardian Angels Mission

THE GUARDIAN ANGELS MISSION

1. Your primary role as a Guardian Angel is **crime prevention**. It follows that the absence of crime/incidents/offenses is one sign that you are doing your work properly.
2. Since crime prevention through **visual deterrence** is our primary method of fighting crime, Guardian Angels should strive for **maximum visibility** at all times.
3. The purpose of being on a safety patrol is **not** to make citizens' arrests. Nevertheless, there may be times when knowledge of citizens' arrest will help you deal correctly with a situation on the street.
4. Guardian Angels are not the police and should not pretend to be so. We are **ordinary citizens** and have no special powers of detention, search or arrest. For a Guardian Angel to assume the powers of a peace officer (i.e., police) is a) illegal and b) will also damage the Guardian Angels' relationship with professional law enforcement. In any situation where police are involved, Guardian Angels should cooperate at all times and follow police instructions if given.
5. Guardian Angels should follow at all times the appropriate laws concerning arrest procedures and should respect at all times the legal, civil, and human rights of the person(s) they are dealing with. **Guardian Angels are not vigilantes**. The decision over guilt or innocence of a suspect can only legally be made by a court of law, which also has the power to decide the penalty for any crime committed. These decisions cannot legally be made by a Guardian Angel, or even a peace officer.
6. All situations should be dealt with **respectfully and courteously**.