# **Advocacy Policy**



## **PURPOSE**

To provide a framework and guidelines for Alongside Hope, its directors, members, employees, and agents when undertaking advocacy activities that seek to effect policy change, educate our constituency and display solidarity with partners.

## APPLICATION

This policy applies to all Alongside Hope directors, members, employees, and agents who undertake advocacy activities at the request of Alongside Hope.

## **POLICY**

Alongside Hope will

- advocate on issues that relate primarily to its strategic plan
- carry out advocacy activities that are supported by evidence-based research and by due diligence
- seek to advocate in ways that respect the dignity of all people, are non-partisan, and non-violent
- in consultation with partners, advocate for changes that benefit the most affected and the least privileged
- in its advocacy, be forthright in telling the truth to those who have the power to effect direct change, and to our constituency

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Advocacy:** Representation to those in government, the corporate sector, the Church, and our constituency, with a view to change or create a law, policy, or decision.

**Partners:** Those individuals and organizations overseas and in Canada with whom Alongside Hope collaborates.

**Evidence-based research:** The use of current best objective evidence gathered by Alongside Hope, its partners, and like-minded organizations that forms the basis for positions and policies on which Alongside Hope determines there is a need to advocate.

**Due diligence:** Action taken to ensure that proposed advocacy is assessed for risk and measured against, and found to be consistent with, existing Alongside Hope and Anglican Church of Canada policy positions.

**Non-partisan:** Free from political party affiliation, bias, or designation.

## **AMENDMENT**

This policy may be amended by the Alongside Hope Board.

Adoption Date: May 2014 Review Date: March 2021 Amendment Date: March 2021