# **Values & Impulsive Behavior Activity**

# My Code



**ETHICS** — A theory or system of moral values pertaining to what is good and bad, right, and wrong; the principles of conduct governing individuals or groups.

**MY CODE** — A simple set of rules an individual lives by and bases their decisions on, even when it might be easier to react impulsively and exhibit a behavior that went against one's own ethics code.

**IMPULSIVITY** — Behavior without adequate thought. To react rapidly, without thinking or planning, to internal or external stimuli without regard to the negative consequences of these reactions.

**IMPULSE CONTROL** — The ability to resist the temptation to speak on a thought, or act on a desire, until thinking through one's values and the consequences. This executive function skill takes the longest to fully mature because it is dependent on the development of our prefrontal cortex.

#### **Materials**

- 1. Poster board
- 2. Markers, Crayons, Pencils, or Pens
- 3. Notebook paper

### **Values**

- Connectedness
- Health
- Balance
- Courage
- Determination
- Feelings
- Honesty
- Family
- Security

- Gratitude
- Openness
- Freedom
- Resiliency
- Responsibility
- Sobriety
- Health
- Support
- Trust

### **Activity**

- 1. Lead a values activity to create a Code of Ethics.
- 2. Validate that everyone may have a different code of ethics from others. Discuss the implications of living with others who have different codes of ethics.
- 3. With notebook paper in hand, begin the brainstorming session.
- 4. Ask everyone what values they would like to represent as a person. Some values are listed here. Use the Internet to search for others, if needed.
- 5. Narrow down the list to 3-5 core values that best represent each person's aspirations.
- 6. Next, make a list of risky behaviors each person feels strongly about saying 'no' to.
- 7. Write sentences that combine the core values and high-risk behaviors each person feels strongly about preventing.
- 8. Combine the Code text with a drawing or graphic that represents you and the values you represent.
- 9. Proudly, share and display the Code.
- 10. Discuss how knowing one's values can assist in preventing risky behavior.

 $Reprinted with permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide @Dr Crystal Collier and the permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide @Dr Crystal Collier and the permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide @Dr Crystal Collier and the permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide @Dr Crystal Collier and the permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide @Dr Crystal Collier and the permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide @Dr Crystal Collier and the permission from The \ NeuroWhere Abouts \ Guide \ Gui$