Our Core Organizational Values

**IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE**
We are committed to artisans and farmers achieving basic human rights including freedom from poverty and the ability to make choices about their own lives. We believe in the equality and dignity of all people and that everyone has the right to a standard of living that includes adequate access to food, clothing, housing, education, and health care. We believe that breaking the cycle of poverty builds stronger societies, economies and peace.

**PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION**
We believe working in partnerships based on mutuality, respect, and compassion benefits all involved and promotes the possibility of a more just world. We strive to develop long-term relationships with our customers, donors, volunteers and producer partners where all are valued and have a voice.

**COMMUNICATION, TRANSPARENCY, & TRUST**
We strive for honesty and integrity in all our interactions, and work to create and maintain trust with our partners, among staff and volunteers, with our customers, and with the greater community. We are committed to continuous critical self-evaluation, independent monitoring, open and honest communication, and transparent sharing of information.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
We believe in long-term environmental, economic, and social sustainability, and strive to practice responsible stewardship in all of our operations. We support our partners in making sustainable development choices with materials and production techniques, with financial resources, and in social programs whenever possible.

**CULTURE, CRAFT, & TRADITION**
We believe that cultural continuity and pride in heritage sustains the spirit of individuals and communities and that the continuation of indigenous cultures is intrinsically important. Artisans and farmers preserve traditions and skills through their work, and their products promote connections with consumers that convey a richness of cultural identity and history.

**QUALITY**
We strive for the highest quality possible in all of our products and services. This includes services for all our producer partners, our systems for sales and delivery, and the products we sell to consumers. High quality products and services provide opportunities for continued work and development for our artisan and farmer partners.

**EDUCATION**
We believe that the mutual exchange of ideas and information by people all along the trading chain—from production to consumption—is essential to creating a more just global trading system. Education creates a connection between buyers and sellers, and helps everyone in the chain better understand their participation and responsibility in the global marketplace.

**VOLUNTEERISM**
We believe that volunteerism provides important opportunities for our constituents to engage in advocacy and action advancing fair trade and creating justice for artisans and farmers. We are grateful for a national network of organizations, stores, and faith communities which enriches our work with their commitment to service.

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creating connections