

## **Declaration of Values and Beliefs**

The SEER Foundation (TSF) is a non-denominational, non-profit, religious organization. Webster's Dictionary defines a religion as a "set of beliefs concerning the cause, nature, and purpose of the universe ....., and often containing a moral code governing the conduct of human affairs." The following is a declaration of our values and beliefs which will serve as a guide to this institution and our individual lives.

- 1) We believe in the sanctity of all life and that we have an individual and group responsibility to treat it with reverence, respect and responsibility. Living and acting responsibly means always striving to practice the fundamental tenant of religions, known variously as "the golden rule", "karma", and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you". We believe this principle applies to all areas in our lives, including how we treat each other, how we treat all other living things and how we treat the planet upon which we depend for our survival and the survival of all future generations of life.
- 2) We believe that all manmade institutions should exist for the benefit of humankind, including religious, educational, economic, scientific, humanitarian, artistic, social, and political systems. Where these institutions teach and promote the unity and oneness of humankind, they should be nurtured and supported. Where they foster separatism and hate they should be rejected and, whenever possible, changed. Any such system that promotes the cooperation and mutual assistance between individuals and groups, large and small, is right and good. Any system that attempts to suppress and restrict other human beings, for the benefit of some and to the detriment of others, is wrong and should be actively resisted.
- 3) We believe that all the resources of the planet "belong" to no one group or individual and that it is our individual and collective responsibility to exercise proper guardianship with respect to those resources. Sharing is one of the means by which we can exercise that guardianship. Striving for perpetual sustainability in all our enterprises is another. We believe that there is sufficient food, money, shelter and natural resources to ensure that adequate resources can be made available to all, now and for as long as humankind is on this planet. No one human being should ever have to suffer the wrongness of the lack of a living wage, homelessness, inadequate or improper health care, insufficient education and worst of all, starvation.

In living the principles described above, we believe that it is incumbent upon us to do all that we can to bring about these ideals. The SEER Foundation is the living laboratory wherein we will strive to manifest these beliefs by creating various programs to carry out those goals. We shall endeavor to encourage, educate, promote, and disseminate these values to our fellow human beings and to daily "practice what we preach".