

Safe Sanctuaries for Youth

By now your local congregation should be completing their policy and procedures concerning safe sanctuaries for children, youth and vulnerable adults. Have you had the opportunity for input concerning your youth program? Here is a short suggested list of issues that should be addressed before your congregation finalizes their church policies:

- Appropriate Interpersonal Boundaries
- Two Adult Rule
- First Aid/CPR Training
- Annual Orientation for Workers
- 5 years older rule
- No workers under 18
- Windows in all classrooms
- Open Door Counseling
- Limited Counseling
- Advance notice to parents
- Participant Covenant for all participants and leaders
- Parent and Family Education
- Appropriate Equipment and Supervision
- Adequate Insurance for the Scope of your ministries
- Youth Group websites
- Transportation Rules/Guidelines

Not only should a congregation focus on the safety of their children, but also on the safety issues that are unique to youth and youth ministries.

For help or more information please contact any of the following

- 1) Your District Superintendent
- 2) Rev Diana Northcutt - 405-530-2144 (within the metro) or 800-231-4166 ext 2144

For more information, please visit www.okumc.org and click in search field type Safe Sanctuaries.

Info taken from "Safe Sanctuaries for Youth" by Joy Thornburg Melton
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