

# Kiwanis Youth Protection Guidelines

Rocky Mountain  
District Convention 2017



**Kiwanis**<sup>®</sup>



# Why this training?

- Child abuse can happen anywhere.
- Kiwanis youth programs have more than 300,000 members.
- Over 3300 is Rocky Mountain District Key Club alone...
- Working with youth=trust



# Why this training?

**Kiwanians should act  
with *the highest*  
*standards* of care**



# Training objectives

- Understand
- Protect
- Identify
- Respond

# Terms and background

- Youth Protection Guidelines history
- Abuse
  - Emotional
  - Physical
  - Sexual
- “Troubling behavior”





# The guidelines

## 1 - Education

- Kiwanis Clubs must educate members annually.
- **Key Clubs SHOULD educate members annually.**
- Kiwanis Districts will have forums or workshops at conventions and conferences.
- **Key Club SHOULD have forums or workshops when appropriate.**



# The guidelines

## **2 - Chaperone**

- 21 years of age or older
- Approved by school or agency to accompany youth at the event.



# The guidelines

## **3 - Criminal history background checks**

- Kiwanis advisors to an SLP are required to have a background check conducted and verified by Kiwanis International. These checks will be valid for 2 years.
- Required for all adults working or serving with Kiwanis youth





# The guidelines

## **4 - Overnight stays**

- One adult for each 10 youth of the same gender.
- Separate sleeping quarters, in MOST cases.



# The guidelines

## 5 -Transportation

- **Rule of three – ALWAYS Not just transportation**
- Written approval from parent/guardian
- Follow all local law and school policies



# The guidelines

## **6 - Medication**

Only allow with *written*  
permission from parent  
or guardian.

**EVEN Advil!**



# The guidelines

## **7 - Alcohol/tobacco/marijuana & other substances**

All youth events must be  
alcohol, tobacco and  
marijuana-free.



# The guidelines

## 8 - Reporting

You must report if you:

- Observe troubling behavior
- Learn of illegal/unsafe situation

**A resource: National Child Abuse Hotline**



# The guidelines

## Reporting

In short:

1. “Reasonable person standard.”
2. If participants or chaperones are not in immediate danger, contact school personnel first.
3. Emergency? Call local law enforcement immediately.



# The guidelines

## **9 - Personal information**

- Keep at least 3 years
- Keep it confidential
- When destroying, shred to keep confidentiality



# The guidelines

## **10 - Youth & social media**

- Adults should not initiate “friendships” or connections
- Interactions are public
- Other possible online interactions?





# The guidelines

## **11 - Behavioral or health issues**

- Leave it to the professionals
- Behavioral vs. personal: use good judgment
- Where to find help for youth



# The guidelines

## **12 - When rules conflict**

Always follow the highest applicable standard.



# A Note on Transgender Youth

## Best Practices:

### **Overnight Stays**

- Consistent w/identity
- Special arrangements **ONLY** w/approval of parent
- Confidentiality

### **Restrooms**

- Consistent w/identity

# Best practices

- Background checks: every two years
- Protection: rule of 3' s ALWAYS
- Reporting: follow the bylaws
- Media: be helpful, but let the authorities be the authorities
- Maintain confidentiality



# Best practices

- Youth Protection Week  
**September 10-16, 2017**
- Take the opportunity to share in Kiwanis, Key Club and at other opportunities – OFTEN!





# Resources

- [www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection](http://www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection)
- [www.kiwanis.org/clubpolicybasics](http://www.kiwanis.org/clubpolicybasics)
- [www.kiwanisone.org/liability](http://www.kiwanisone.org/liability)
- [memberservices@kiwanis.org](mailto:memberservices@kiwanis.org)
  
- National Child Abuse Hotline:  
1-800-4-A-CHILD / 1-800-422-4453  
[www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org)

# POP QUIZ!



**Kiwaniis**<sup>®</sup>

Thank you for your  
attention and participation.



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