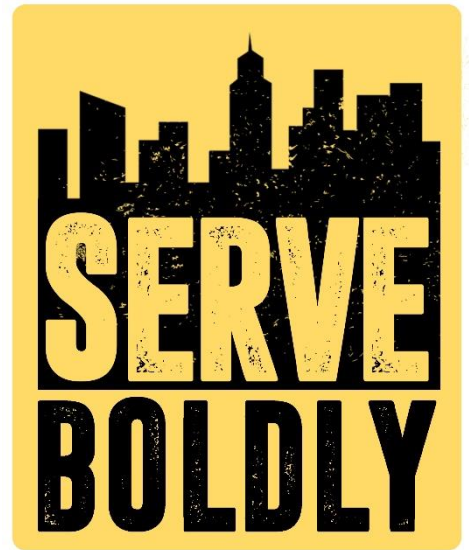


Appropriate Behavior Policy



ADULT SUPERVISION

- Two adults (Discipleship Guides count as adults) will always be present with a group of youth. This requires two adults at every ministry site at all times. Adults will also travel to and from events with another adult (it may be necessary for the second adult to follow in a separate vehicle but at no time should one adult travel with youth apart from a caravan). Stops should be made together by all vehicles traveling and drivers are required to keep each other informed if issues arise that necessitate a change in route or other travel plans.
- Discipleship Guides will not be allowed to transport youth in their vehicles.
- Youth will never be apart from a group that contains appropriate adult supervision.
- All drivers must abide by the laws of the applicable state in which they are driving.

BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES (these apply to: Discipleship Guides, adults, youth, and members of the community)

- No activities or substances prohibited by law are permitted.
- When in sleeping rooms, male youth will be supervised by adult males and female youth will be supervised by adult females.
- Speaking to a minor in a one-on-one situation should be done in public settings where other adults can witness the conversation.
- Adults and youth must use separate shower facilities or use them at separate times.
- The following different types of abuse are strictly prohibited:
 - **Physical abuse** which is defined as non-accidental injury, which is intentionally inflicted upon a child or youth.
 - **Sexual abuse perpetrated by an adult** - any contact of a sexual nature that occurs between a youth and an adult.
 - **Sexual abuse perpetrated by another youth** - any contact of a sexual nature that occurs between youth.
 - **Emotional abuse** - mental or emotional injury to a youth that results in an observable and material impairment in the youth's growth, development or psychological functioning.
 - **Neglect** - failure to provide for a youth's basic needs or the failure to protect a youth from harm.
 - **Economic exploitation** - the deliberate misplacement or wrongful use of a youth's belongings or money.
 - **Bullying** - aggressive behavior that is intentional and involves an imbalance of power.

SHOWING AFFECTION

Love and affection are part of church life and ministry. There are many ways to demonstrate love and care for youth while maintaining safe boundaries.

The following are positive and appropriate forms of affection:

- brief "sideways" hugs
- pats on the shoulder or back
- handshakes, "high fives" and hand slapping
- verbal praise
- holding hands while walking with young children
- sitting beside small children
- kneeling or bending down for hugs with children
- voluntary hand-holding during prayer

The following are considered inappropriate forms of affection and are prohibited:

- Embraces which are "front-to-front" body contact
- kisses on the mouth
- touching bottoms, chests or genital areas
- any show of affection in isolated areas such as empty classrooms or other rooms
- an adult wrestling with youth
- an adult tickling youth
- piggyback rides
- any type of massage by youth or adult
- any form of unwanted affection
- comments or compliments (spoken, written or electronic) that relate to physique or body development
- snapping bras or giving wedgies or similar touch of underwear whether or not it is covered by other clothing