



SAMPLE- Supervising Youth Events

Jesus, time and time again, spoke of the importance of young people being included and provided for within the community of faith. Our hope and belief today is that the church is a place where children and youth will find the unconditional love and care they so desperately need to grow and thrive.

The following suggestions help organizers of events where youth are participants.

- All adults should be background checked and trained in procedures and guidelines around child abuse prevention, and/ or Safe Sanctuaries®.

For larger events that implement the above standard for “event staff and organizers”, churches groups with chaperones should sign a validation regarding the completion of a background check and other training of their own chaperones.

Larger events may offer on-site basic training for abuse prevention that specifically relates to procedures for that event.

- A minimum of two non-related adults with each group of youth with Adult/Youth ratios:
Junior High 2:8
High School 2:10
- All adults should be at least 18 years of age and at least 5 years older than the youth being supervised.
- All participants should have completed a “Health and Permission to Treat” form which includes emergency contact information.
- At least one adult at the event should be certified in CPR and First Aid and will provide medical care within the scope of their certification.
All treatment should be logged
Routine medication should be administered by an adult chaperone
Medication should be in original containers with instructions from the doctor for administration.
- Youth should be checked into and out of the event.
- A policy should be in place regarding youth driving themselves to an event.
If permitted, youth should turn in their keys upon arrival.
No youth should transport other youth to and from events.
A driver should be at least 7 years older than those they are transporting.
No adult should transport a youth alone to an event.



- General “Rule of 3” – At least 3 people should be present at any one time, whether it is youth together or adult chaperones with youth in and around the event.

- If the event is an overnight event:

Participants should be provided their own beds whenever possible and youth should always room with youth of the same age range and gender or be provided with individual rooms.

Participants should only room with an adult (over the age of 18) if there is a dormitory sleeping style and either another participant or two unrelated adults.

Dormitory rooms should house only one gender.

Participants should never sleep alone in a room with an adult.

Sleeping rooms are only for the persons assigned to those rooms. Event leadership should at least know which rooms are being used by which churches (at large events). Even better is having a written room record that lists individual participants.

Sleeping rooms should not be a gathering place for other youth.

Youth may share a room with one adult if it is their parent/guardian.

There should be a process in place for nightly check-in and assurance that all youth are in their assigned room for the night.

Check-ins should be done in person, not by message passed through another participant or by phone or text.

- Youth should not be left unsupervised at any time.

- Each participant should sign a behavior covenant.

Parents should be given a copy of the event covenant and understand the consequences around it.