

## **ADULT CODE OF CONDUCT**

Young people are the most important gifts God entrusts to us. As an adult participant in an Archdiocesan sponsored youth event or program, I promise to strictly follow these policies and the following standards as a condition of my participation and/or providing of services to the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

I will:

- Conduct myself in a manner that exhibits the highest Christian ethical standards and avoids even the appearance of impropriety, and therefore I will:
- Report suspected abuse of any minor to the appropriate authorities.
- Complete VIRTUS training in youth protection.
- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Honor the equality of all people, avoiding all forms of discrimination and respecting the dignity of each person without regard to economic status, age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or physical or mental abilities.
- Use positive reinforcement and communication rather than criticism, unhealthy competition, or comparison.
- Become thoroughly familiar with the objectives and guidelines of the program in which I am participating and strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them appropriately.
- Be aware of and adhere to emergency plans and evacuation routes appropriate to the program in which I am participating.
- Be responsible and/or accountable for stewardship of all resources entrusted to my care.
- Uphold the authority of those responsible for the program or activity in which I am participating and assist them in every way to encourage learning and to conduct fair and impartial events.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with minors, always following the two adult rule.
- Avoid any form of excessive familiarity, inappropriate language, or any situation and conduct that exploits or could give the appearance of exploiting another.
- Follow practices that consistently exhibit no tolerance for any form of abusive behavior.

I will not:

- Use physical affection to initiate inappropriate contact with minors.
- Touch a minor in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of minors.
- Purchase tobacco products for or distribute tobacco products to minors.
- Use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol while supervising minors or while participating in an Archdiocesan youth event.
- Purchase alcohol for or distribute alcohol to anyone.
- Be under the influence of alcohol at any time.
- Use, purchase, possess, distribute, or be under the influence of illegal drugs at any time.
- Purchase, download, possess, or distribute pornography.
- Pose any known health risk to minors (i.e., no fevers or other contagious situations).
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, demean, nor degrade minors or others nor tolerate such behavior in the environment for which I am responsible.
- Use physical discipline in any way for behavior management of minors. No form of physical discipline is acceptable. This includes, but is not limited to, spanking, slapping, pinching, shaking, hitting or any other physical force as retaliation or correction for inappropriate behavior of a minor.
- Use profanity in any form in the presence of minors.