

Your Partner: Abuse Prevention



THE SAFECONDUCT™ WORKBENCH

Our comprehensive toolkit assists ministries in developing a strong abuse prevention program.



SAFECONDUCT™ POLICY

A strong policy is the foundation for a safe environment. This template can help save you hours of debate and drafting.



BACKGROUND SCREENING SERVICES

Industry best practices recommend that ministries conduct background screenings of any employee/volunteer who have access to children and vulnerable adults.



ONLINE TRAINING

At the core of Praesidium Academy is a continually expanding library of engaging courses, each with clearly defined outcomes.

According to a Pew Research Center survey, 60% of children participate in religious instruction or youth groups. According to the USDOJ's Office of Community Oriented Policing Service, there are valuable steps your ministry can take to ensure the safety and well-being of the most vulnerable members in your care and it starts with policy creation, screening and training.

SAFEGUARDING

- Are there policies in place, such as more intensive screening requirements, requirements that activities be observable or interruptible, requirements for staff monitoring and supervision strategies, specifically addressing any programmatic elements where an adult or older child may be alone with another child?
- Are there policies prohibiting employees/volunteers from giving gifts to children?
- Are there policies prohibiting employees/volunteers from privately contacting children online or virtually, unless a parent or guardian is copied?

SCREENING

- Does your ministry use a reputable screening service to conduct background checks that provides support for interpreting details in the report if you have questions?
- Are criminal history checks performed on all employees/volunteers who have access to children?
- Do you conduct nationwide background checks, statewide background checks, or both? Are reference checks performed on applicants?
- Do you re-screen employees/volunteers after they are hired, and, if so, how often?

TRAINING

- Do employees, volunteers, and parents receive training about how to prevent, identify, and report child abuse?
- Are they provided with information about how to report concerns internally and through the appropriate organizational process?
- Do employees/volunteers receive training, in accordance with best practices and organizational policies, about what constitutes appropriate contact with children?
- Do employees/volunteers receive training about mandatory reporting laws?