

Appendix B- Code of Ethics Form

The following Code of Ethics and the PACRC Policies on the prevention of Child Abuse are to be reviewed by all volunteer and paid staff ministering to youth. This form should be copied and signed by each individual volunteer or paid staff ministering to youth and filed with the council clerk.

Believing that God is calling me to serve children or youth in the congregation of the Palo Alto Christian Reformed Church...

1. My first priority in teaching/supervising/leading children or youth will be to seek the welfare of the children/youth physically, socially, educationally, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.
2. I will try to understand and respect the child's/youth's cultural background.
3. I will give the parent(s) full information about the program I am teaching/supervising/leading and what time it begins and ends.
4. I will not do anything that will damage a child's or youth's trust. I will try to protect the child/youth from all forms of abuse while he or she is in my care.
5. If I suspect that a child/youth may be hurt by the abusive actions or attitudes of another person, I will report that suspicion to a responsible person so that it can be investigated properly.
6. If I wish to talk to the child/youth alone, it will be within the sight and sound of other people.
7. I will answer a child's/youth's questions openly and honestly.
8. I will work with the children/youth to set some agreed upon guidelines for acceptable behavior within the group. I will expect the children/youth to act on the basis of those guidelines, and if a child/youth consistently breaks them, I will seek help from parents and others to assist me in responding to the child/youth.
9. If a child/youth is distressed, I will try to offer comfort and help. I will encourage the child/youth to find the appropriate help for their needs.
10. I will pray for each child/youth regularly and let them know that I care about them.

I confirm that I have read, understood and will comply to both the Code of Ethics above and to the PACRC policies on the prevention of child abuse.

Signature

Date

Volunteer/Staff Position