

# 2026 Great Lakes Annual Conference Legislation

**ID:** PET-03



**Title:** Updating Child Protection Policy

**Submitted by:** GLAC Discipleship Team

**Type:** Petition

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## **Rationale (if provided)**

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- 1 Update the conference Protection Of Children, Youth, And Vulnerable Adults policy as follows,
- 2 beginning on next page:

## GREAT LAKES ANNUAL CONFERENCE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

### Guidance for Congregations Policy for Conference and District Events Expectations for Clergy

#### PREAMBLE

The Great Lakes Annual Conference is a spiritual community in which both membership and leadership take seriously their responsibility to provide safe and nurturing environments for children, youth, and vulnerable adults who participate in our ministries. All volunteers and paid staff in leadership roles in these ministries are living out the vows we take in baptism to nurture each other in the Christian faith. Every church worker plays a key role in fostering the spiritual development of individuals and families in our church community.

We wish to offer guidance to congregations in writing and maintaining their individual policies. At the same time, we realize that the Conference and the Districts will, from time to time, also do ministry directly with children, youth, and vulnerable adults, so the Conference needs its own policy. Meanwhile, screening of new clergy is already routine in the GMC; that screening will be updated as the [Leadership-Conference Connectional](#) Council may direct. And clergy need a training module for their own work – quite apart from the ministry of the congregations – that addresses their conduct and approach to ministry with children, youth, and vulnerable adults; this training will also be updated periodically as the Leadership Council may direct.

The guidance given to congregations takes the form of *minimum standards*. The congregation is at liberty to prescribe comparable ones, as it best serves their particular ministries. But in any case where action is governed by more than one set of rules (e.g., State law, *The Book of Doctrines and Discipline*, local church policy, BSA or GSUSA rules, etc.) the stricter requirements shall take precedence.

#### DEFINITIONS

*Sexual Abuse* is any sexual contact or interaction of an adult or significantly older youth with a child, youth, or vulnerable adult, i.e. indecent exposure, physical or verbal liberties, communication for immoral purposes, fondling, rape). Coercion through force, threats, or bribery and dissemination of pornography, misrepresenting right and wrong, or misleading statements are some of the ways this crime is perpetrated. Abuse occurs even if the vulnerable member does not resist.

*Physical Abuse* is any physical force applied by an adult or older youth to a child, youth, or vulnerable adult. Physical force or corporal punishment, i.e. hitting, spanking, shaking, shoving, etc., shall not be used by leaders in our programs.

*Emotional Abuse* is belittling, hateful, or angry words and/or actions directed toward a child, youth, or vulnerable adult. Discipline by humiliation is also emotional abuse.

*Bullying* is intimidation by words, threats, or physical harm against someone younger or a less socially advantaged peer. It can be done face to face, online, or by creating a hostile environment in collusion with others.

*Neglect of Basic Needs* is also a form of abuse. Denial of food, water, cleanliness, clothing, and sleep are examples of inappropriate discipline.

### **HAVING A POLICY IN PLACE**

*The Importance of Having a Policy.* Many people resist writing and implementing child protection policies. It's a lot of work. And it is offensive to many long-time volunteers, who feel their faithful work is being discounted and they are being treated as suspect. But to rely on trust alone and personal histories (so far as we know them) leaves open the gate for bad people to do bad things. Screening, training, and supervising the long-term volunteer is not a slur on his or her character; rather, it is a means of making sure that others cannot insinuate themselves into positions of leadership who are not fit for them. By having a written policy everyone must follow, rather than an *ad hoc* set of understandings, we make our children safer.

*Resources Are Not a Policy.* There are many places to get the resources needed to maintain a policy to protect children, youth, and vulnerable adults. The GMC has contracted with MinistrySafe to provide every GMC congregation with a free account. All you have to do is sign up. MinistrySafe has sample policies for various programs and excellent training videos. They will (for a fee) conduct background checks on volunteers for you. In addition, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and public schools and many other organizations have excellent policy and training resources. Many church insurers will do background checks for a reasonable fee. And there are other resources available. BUT: no set of resources, however good, is the same thing as having a written policy for your local church. Too many folks assume a false air of security from knowing that all these resources are at their disposal. They think that it saves them the hassle of writing and maintaining a policy. They think that there will be time, if and when they ever have an incident, to go to the website or policy manual and figure out what they should do. This is a recipe for disaster. Every congregation – as well as the Conference itself – needs its own policy, tailored to its ministry.

*The Importance of Following Your Policy.* Having adopted a formal policy, too many congregations treat it as a magic talisman – an evil-be-gone box. They assume they are protected. But not following your policy is worse than not having one at all. In case of litigation or scandal, the congregation which has a policy it is not following is presumptively negligent, and all its excuses will be discounted, whether in civil court or the court of public opinion. And adopting a policy full of boilerplate text you don't understand means you won't be able to follow your policy. Policies must be written in plain language so that plain people can implement the plain intent of them.

*Maintaining a Policy.* Someone has to be in charge of the policy. That means seeing that screening and training is done and records are kept. And it means reviewing the policy *annually* and updating its provisions as necessary. In many congregations, that will be done by the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, simply because of the confidential nature of screening volunteers and handling any allegations/revelations of abuse. Adoption of policies and updates should be

approved by the Church Council and/or the Charge Conference. In the Great Lakes Provisional Annual Conference, the body in charge of maintaining the policy is the Discipleship team. Adoption of policy is by Annual Conference action; updates will be approved by the Leadership Council and affirmed by the Annual Conference.

### THE ELEMENTS OF A POLICY

There are five elements which constitute a policy for the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults: *What the policy covers; How screening will be done; What training will be offered/required; The rules themselves; How to respond to allegations/revelations of abuse.* Each of these will be addressed in the sections below.

### Coverage

#### GUIDANCE FOR CONGREGATIONS

Guidance for congregations is given in passages of text which may be lifted whole to form a congregational policy. Discussion of options to tailor standards to fit particular congregations' ministries is then given.

#### *Minimum Standards*

All ministries to children, youth, and vulnerable adults conducted or sponsored by [Name of Church] are subject to these guidelines. Leaders of events and on-going programs in ministry to children, youth, and vulnerable adults will be formally associated (e.g., paid staff, members, or constituents) with [Name of Church].

1a. Groups renting or granted use of facilities or a group given overnight shelter on a cross-country trip are not the responsibility of [Name of Church], unless the church is significantly involved in the planning or supervision of their program; however, groups associated with and/or advertised by [Name of Church] are considered part of the local church's ministry, and shall be in compliance with the policy, e.g., a Boy Scout or Girl Scout troop, a day care operating at the church, or a summer recreation program.

1b. Leaders of [Name of Church] ministries who are not themselves formally associated with [Name of Church] – e.g. a member of another religious organization who is also a Scout Committee member, a 4-H club leader, or volunteer day care staff person – are subject to this policy as part of our extended spiritual family. At least one person who is formally associated with [Name of Church] must be part of the leadership of that program to maintain sponsorship by the church.

1c. Some activities that include children, youth, or vulnerable adults are open by nature, e.g., public worship or a church picnic; leaders of public events or picnics need not meet screening and training requirements. Likewise, some activities designed for family participation, where children, youth, or vulnerable adults attend as part of family groups or parent-child pairings, e.g. a breakfast for men and boys or a Mother/Daughter banquet do not require leaders to meet screening and training requirements. *However*, all activities that include children, youth, or vulnerable adults will be properly conducted according to these guidelines.

## *Tailoring your policy to match your ministry*

It helps to conduct a program audit from time to time of all the activities that take place in your facilities or under your congregation's leadership. Adjust your guidelines to cover exactly what you're involved in, or might desire to be involved in. At the same time, look closely at those not associated with your congregation who are sharing your space. You might not think "they" are "us," but if you have an on-going relationship, and particularly if you are promoting their activities, make their continued use of your facilities contingent upon their satisfying you that they have adequate protection policies in place.

## **POLICY FOR CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

This policy covers all ministry to children and youth at official meetings of the Conference or Districts. Trips, retreats, and camps conducted by the Conference or Districts or consortia of local churches open to participation by persons from other congregations are also covered. Child care (or care of vulnerable adults) at Conference and District events is also covered.

## **EXPECTATIONS FOR CLERGY**

Clergy relate to children, youth, and vulnerable adults in many ways. The pastor is everybody's pastor, and there are special challenges to working with underage or otherwise vulnerable parishioners. Clergy will at all times conduct themselves in accordance with the best practices of ministry, and all clergy are at all times accountable for how they relate to children, youth, and vulnerable adults.

## **Screening**

### **GUIDANCE FOR CONGREGATIONS**

#### *Minimum Standards*

All leaders of events and on going programs will be screened before acting as leaders. Checking references should be part of this screening. Persons convicted of any form of sexual, physical, or other abuse of children, youth, or vulnerable adults, or who have a history of inappropriate behavior with children, youth, or vulnerable adults, will not be approved for leadership.

2a. All current and future leaders shall be screened.

2b. The STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPRC) is responsible for conducting screening and maintaining records of applicants. Applications will be submitted to [Name of Church's Insurer or other agency] for criminal background checks. Records will be handled in a confidential manner.

2c. One-time helpers, drivers, chaperones, and hosts for activities are not exempted from screening procedures. Unscreened adults may participate in some activities as guests (e.g., unscreened parents attending a field trip with their children), but cannot act as leaders. Occasional guest status is not to be construed in a manner that would evade screening requirements.

2d. Other organizations' screening procedures that meet or exceed this policy (e.g., BSA application procedures) may be substituted so long as [Name of Church] is provided with

acceptable documentation, no older than two (2) years.

2e. The minimum age for responsible leadership of programs with youth is 21 years, though additional adults assisting may be 18 years. Younger youth are encouraged to exercise leadership under the supervision of adults. The minimum age for assisting in the church nursery is \_\_\_ years and only if an (other) adult is present.

### *Tailoring your policy to match your ministry*

In the foregoing guidance, we are recommending that your policy be maintained by the SPRC. You can, of course, choose someone else to carry this responsibility, such as a Discipleship or Christian Education team; however, you will need to make sure that whatever body you assign this responsibility to is capable of handling confidential information properly.

When first setting up your policy, you have the option of “grandfathering” in those who have provided leadership for many years without a background check. This is a one-time-only proposition. Only those grandfathered in at the time of the policy’s enactment can avoid the screening requirements you set. And if you require subsequent background checks for all your leaders periodically, those who were grandfathered in at the beginning cannot avoid subsequent background checks. Everyone must be treated the same once you have a policy to follow. If there is a “grandfather” provision in your policy, it would go in section a., above.

Different agencies offer different levels of criminal background checks. Your local Sheriff’s Department can only access records from your county, the State Police can only access records from your State. Some agencies, such as MinistrySafe, certain church insurers, and the Boy Scouts do national background checks. You will need to decide who you want to do your background checks. The more transient the population of your community (and church) is, the wider the net you will want to cast; if cost is not an issue, go for the widest coverage you can get.

In terms of the minimum age for program or activity leadership, we have set a standard of one person at least 21 years of age; additional adults could be 18+. You are at liberty to require two adults 21+ if you like. This is a matter of assessing your community standards and available personnel.

The whole matter of church nursery care is too complicated to cover in a one-size-fits-all guidance. Some churches have a vacant room available for parents to take fussy children to. Others have volunteers staffing the nursery in rotation, in which case screening and training requirements must be addressed, and a minimum age for those assisting is set (say, 14). Still other congregations have elaborate check-in/check-out procedures to make sure that children are not released into the care of non-custodial adults. Whatever you offer in the way of child care, whether during worship or at other events, needs to be covered in your policy.

### **POLICY FOR CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

Lay volunteers for Conference and District events shall offer proof of screening from their local churches (pastor’s written notice will suffice) before being used in leadership. Organizations with which the Conference contracts for services in ministry to children, youth, or vulnerable

adults will offer proof that their employees or volunteers have been screened. The leader of the Conference or District program is responsible for checking to see that everyone in leadership has been screened. In cases where screening is deemed by the leader insufficient for the program offered, screening may be required.

### **EXPECTATIONS FOR CLERGY**

All GMC clergy have a criminal background check and a credit check done at their entry into the profession or upon their transfer from another denomination. The Leadership Council may specify how often routine background checks will be done throughout the course of the clergy career.

### **Training**

#### **GUIDANCE FOR CONGREGATIONS**

##### *Minimum Standards*

All leaders of events and on-going programs shall undergo training as a regular part of their service as leaders. This training shall include general information in spotting and preventing abuse and the content of this policy.

3a. The STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPRC) is responsible for ensuring training is conducted and maintaining records of leaders' training.

3b. Training will be offered at least once a year. To continue in leadership, training must be renewed at least every two years. Leaders and assistants who have not yet had an opportunity to receive training, as well as one-time drivers, helpers, chaperones, or hosts of activities who have not yet received training, may be used under the direction of trained leaders to insure the safety of the participants after they have reviewed the policy in place and agreed to abide by its guidelines.

3c. The STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPRC) is responsible for choosing or designing the training modules which will qualify leaders under these guidelines.

##### *Tailoring your policy to match your ministry*

There are many fine training materials available for you to use. You need to state in your policy either what modules will be required, or who is responsible for choosing them. The latter allows you to change or augment your training without having to re-write your policy.

In addition to keeping records (applications for working with youth, training attendance report forms), an up-to-date list of everyone currently screened, trained, and approved who can be used in leadership needs to be easily available in your church office.

### **POLICY FOR CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

Volunteers should be trained to recognize, prevent, and respond to incidents or allegations/revelations of abuse. Volunteers must be familiar with the guidelines under which we operate.

Both clergy and lay volunteers for Conference and District events shall offer proof of training

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from their local churches (pastor's written notice will suffice) before being used in leadership. Organizations with which the Conference contracts for services in ministry to children, youth, or vulnerable adults will offer proof that their employees or volunteers have been appropriately trained. Conference and District events, particularly of a long-term nature (more than three days' duration) shall insure that all leaders have had appropriate training for the event.

Any of the training modules offered by MinistrySafe that are appropriate to the program being offered may be assumed to fit our training requirements. The Discipleship Team is authorized to review and approve other training regimes for particular programs which a program leader might prefer as more appropriate to the particular program or setting.

### EXPECTATIONS FOR CLERGY

All clergy in the GMC are expected to complete a training module in Protection of Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults as part of their entry into the field (see Candidacy Guidebook). In addition, the Leadership Council of the Great Lakes Provisional Annual Conference may specify how often this training must be repeated throughout the course of the clergy career. All active clergy are expected to keep all required trainings current to remain eligible for employment. This particular training module will focus specifically on challenges and best practices in ordained ministry with children, youth, and vulnerable adults. Other training modules meant to equip volunteers for participation in congregational programs and groups may not be substituted for the clergy training module. The clergy training module will be selected or prepared by the Conference Discipleship team, in order to complement the resources offered to congregations and the Conference/Districts.

### The Rules

#### GUIDANCE FOR CONGREGATIONS

##### *Minimum Standards*

All events and on-going programs in ministry to children, youth, and vulnerable adults shall be conducted according to the following guidelines.

4a. Every event or program must have at least two adults in leadership. When there is multiple use of a facility (e.g. many classes meeting at the same time, or two groups meeting in different areas of the building), there need not be two adults in every room where a program with children, youth, or vulnerable adults is being conducted. In such cases, rooms shall have doors with windows or doors shall remain open. Adults shall avoid situations where they are one on one with a child, youth, or vulnerable adult and away from other persons; this does not apply to parent child or sibling relationships.

4b. Adults shall avoid exchanging texts, images, or social media posts one-on-one with children, youth, or vulnerable adults; another adult should be copied on every such exchange, or the exchange should be with an entire group. Caution should be exercised even in telephone conversations; in general, the leader should avoid any situation where a misconstrued conversation could come down to "this one said/the other said." Cameras, including cell phone cameras, should not be taken into bathrooms and changing areas.

[4c. Adults working with youth should avoid communicating with youth online, by text, or](#)

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by phone one-on-one. Misbehavior, misunderstanding, and misrepresentation are more likely to occur in one-on-one communications.

4d. Any device capable of taking pictures or recording video should not be permitted in any private space such as a restroom or changing room.

4e. Congregations should establish rules concerning the use of cell phones and other social media during ministry events. There are times and places when cell phones intrude upon the cloistered nature of an event, preventing the engagement of the participants with each other, or with God. Adult volunteers should also take care not to be overly tied to their phones or other media when engaging with youth in ministry events.

4f. All drivers for an off-site trip shall be at least \_\_\_ years old, though driving to and from a local activity is up to parents' discretion. No one may be transported in a vehicle without wearing a seat belt (other than buses, and the buses shall be driven by persons with valid CDL licenses). Parent contact information will be secured for local day trips. Specific, parental permission, including medical release information, is required for overnight events and extended trips away from the church.

4g. Overnight/extended trips: adults do not share beds with children, youth, or vulnerable adults. Adults do not share sleeping facilities (e.g., tents or hotel rooms) in a 1:1 ratio with a child, youth, or vulnerable adult. Adults may share group sleeping facilities (e.g. cabin or bunkhouse) with children, youth, or vulnerable adults, but only if two adults are present in the facility; every effort to ensure privacy for all participants will be made. Parent child and sibling relationships are an exception to this guideline. Co-ed overnight trips require at least one leader of each sex.

4h. Adequate personnel to supervise each activity will be provided in the following ratios of leaders to expected attendance:

Children (ages 0-2) 1:4

Children (ages 3-5) 1:5

Children (ages 6-11) 1:6

Youth (ages 12-17) 1:10

Every effort will be made to seek additional help when expected attendance is significantly exceeded.

4i. Leaders will not tolerate physical abuse in the conduct of activities with children, youth, or vulnerable adults. Youth in leadership positions will be properly supervised by the adult leaders so that they are not abusive in their leadership of their peers.

4j. Hazing in any form is forbidden. Bullying by adults or other youth will not be tolerated.

### *Tailoring your policy to match your ministry*

Use of imaging technology and social media has exploded in recent years. Restricting use of cell phones and cameras during activities is difficult to do; any restriction will be instantly

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unpopular. Figuring out where to draw the line and what to require of both adults and youth will require you to talk with all stakeholders – including parents. And whatever you require, you will have to enforce. Should someone be found or accused of taking inappropriate pictures, the device in use should be confiscated until the activity is over. Images should be reviewed and deleted, unless they constitute evidence of a crime, in which case the device should be turned over to the authorities.

Where practicable, designating separate bathroom facilities for youth and adults is a good idea.

We have not designated a minimum standard for the age of authorized drivers on church trips. One could say 21 years or older; one could say 18 years or older (but out of high school).

It is possible to write stricter standards than given here; BSA now requires that youth sharing a tent be no more than two years apart in age, for instance. These are only minimal standards. It is also hard to write a policy covering every conceivable kind of situation one might find one's group in on a trip. If you face a quandary about how to handle something, especially if it is a repeated circumstance, consider updating your policy. Society evolves and we face new circumstances all the time. You need to review your policy on a regular basis to keep it current

### **POLICY FOR CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

Leaders and volunteers for Conference and District events must be familiar with the rules in these guidelines. Conference and District events use the same rules as recommended herein for local churches.

### **EXPECTATIONS FOR CLERGY**

Clergy in leadership of ministry to children, youth, and vulnerable adults are expected to act within these guidelines. The required training module for clergy will cover issues of pastoral care of children, youth, and vulnerable adults that go beyond the programmatic conduct of ministry. At all times, GMC clergy are expected to follow best practices of pastoral care and not seek to evade requirements that are generally applicable to volunteers.

### **Responding to Allegations/Revelations of Abuse** **GUIDANCE FOR CONGREGATIONS**

#### *Minimum Standards*

When incidents of abuse are suspected, appropriate procedures will be followed.

5a. All adults involved in ministry to children, youth, or vulnerable adults shall be told of their responsibility to report incidents of abuse according to law.

5b. In addition to allegations of improper conduct made against a leader or participant within the church, a child, youth, or vulnerable adult may reveal abuse that is happening somewhere else. Every responsible adult who becomes aware of an abusive situation – even if it has nothing to do with the local church – is a mandatory reporter by law, and should both inform the pastor of the revelation and report it directly to the proper authorities.

## Protection of Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Adults

5c. The Staff/Pastor Relations Committee (SPRC) is responsible for receiving allegations of improper conduct. Discretion and diligence are both necessary for this responsibility. Early documentation of incidents is important. Leaders and program or event participants should report allegations of abuse to the pastor; if the pastor is not available report to the chair or a member of SPRC.

5d. The SPRC is responsible for cooperating with local authorities, with the bishop or designee, and handling the flow of information to the public. Advice of legal counsel will be followed. One, sole spokesperson will be appointed.

5e. The SPRC is responsible for investigating allegations of improper conduct, and where necessary, recommending removal of persons from leadership. Proper documentation is important in all cases.

### *Tailoring your policy to match your ministry*

Some congregations have more leadership resources than others. Some choose to create a response team, which would include a mental health counselor, an attorney, or other persons, but in many congregations the only person with any significant training in handling legal or mental health issues is the pastor. You have to use what you've got. It is critically important that your training should address the proper way to respond to an allegation or revelation of abuse.

If a congregational leader is accused of abuse (whether or not in the context of a church program), the church may need to exclude that person from leadership until the accusations are resolved. Even if no legal consequences result, the church still has to decide if that person should retain the trust of the congregation; "not proved" does not mean "full faith and credit."

Note also that sometimes allegations are made against leaders that have nothing to do with abuse. You need to follow the same procedures for those. People may level accusations of theft, of drug abuse, or other unsavory acts against a leader of one of your programs. These have nothing to do with child abuse, but the church should want to make sure that its leaders are worthy examples to follow. It also should be careful not to give credence to spiteful gossip. Any time an accusation of any sort of misconduct is made, there needs to be a procedure in place to check out the story in a respectful and confidential manner. And if removing a leader is to be done, it's best that it be done in consultation with a group like the SPRC, instead of simply by the pastor.

### **POLICY FOR CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT EVENTS**

All incidents or allegations of abuse at a Conference or District event should be reported to the leader of the event, who will notify the President Pro Tempore. This does not take the place of any adult's responsibility to make a report to the civil authorities. The President Pro Tem, in consultation with the bishop, will appoint a sole spokesman and other members of a response team, as the Leadership Council may direct.

The leader of the event will take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all participants.

### **EXPECTATIONS FOR CLERGY**

Clergy need to know the limits of confidentiality and how that relates to their legal responsibility as a mandatory reporter of abuse.

### **Sample Forms**

The following forms are given as templates which local churches may adapt for the conduct of their ministry.

**PARENT CONTACT FORM**

**PARENT'S NOTIFICATION TO SCHOOLS**

**PARENT'S PERMISSION FOR OVERNIGHT TRIPS**

**PARENT'S PERMISSION FOR INTERNATIONAL TRIPS**

**TRAINING ATTENDANCE REPORT FORM**

**[VOLUNTEER APPLICATION](#)**

**[EMPLOYEE APPLICATION](#)**



## PARENT'S NOTIFICATION TO SCHOOLS

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To whom it may concern:

My child, \_\_\_\_\_ is traveling to (place) \_\_\_\_\_

from (dates) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ as a part of a youth group under the direction of

\_\_\_\_\_ and other adults. This group is affiliated with

[Name of Church]. My child has my permission to go on this trip.

The purpose of this trip is connected to my child's religious training and also may advance secular education goals.

I ask that my child's teachers and other school personnel excuse my child from attendance on the date(s) in question. I realize that my child will have to complete all assigned work, regardless of the reason for the absence.

Signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship

## PARENT'S PERMISSION FOR OVERNIGHT TRIPS

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To whom it may concern:

My child, \_\_\_\_\_ is traveling to (place) \_\_\_\_\_

from (dates) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ as a part of a youth group under the direction of \_\_\_\_\_ and other adults. This group is affiliated with

[Name of Church]. My child has my permission to go on this trip.

I also give permission for my child to receive medical treatment in the event of injury or illness from any facility or health-care practitioner the leader or his representative may choose.

Signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship

### Health Information:

Please list any existing medical conditions your child has, along with any medications currently being taken by your child. Give any instructions necessary for dispensing medications. Medicine should be sent in the original containers.

For extended trips away from home, please attach physical exam form and/or copy of insurance card(s) (if required).

Physician's name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

