

Child Protection Policy Guidelines

Child Evangelism Fellowship of South Carolina

This is an overview of rules that directly affect a GNC child and/or worker.

Child abuse is defined as any verbal or sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or serious physical injury which is not explained by the available medical history as being accidental. Examples of sexual abuse are: rape, incest, sodomy, lewd or lascivious behavior which includes wrong types of speech or touching. Examples of verbal abuse are: excessive yelling, berating, ridicule or verbal assault intentionally directed at the child.

In order to protect the child from abuse and our workers from false accusations, a reasonable effort should be made to take the following steps:

1. All workers (paid and volunteer) should be adequately screened by interview prior to work or contact with minors in CEF ministries.
2. All workers (paid and volunteer) should read, understand and sign a statement agreeing to follow the policies and procedures concerning child abuse protection and reporting that as prescribed by CEF USA.
3. Children should not be left unsupervised while in our care – from the time they arrive at GNC until picked up by a parent.
4. Two CEF workers (paid and volunteer) should be present at any overnight CEF activity or ministry setting that would be considered a high isolation situation.
5. Overnight activities sponsored by CEF involving minors should be approved by local or state director and local committee or state board.
6. All rooms used by adults and minors together should be accessible (no locked doors) and with open visibility (a window in the door or the door left wide open.)
 - a. No adult and minor in restroom alone.
 - b. When counseling a child always remain in open visibility.
 - c. Under no circumstances should an adult and a child ever be alone together.
7. There should be no inappropriate contact between the adult and the child. Avoid anything that could be misunderstood or give an appearance of inappropriate action or behavior.
8. All suspicious or inappropriate behavior between a CEF worker and a minor should be reported to supervisory staff of CEF and investigated immediately.

Background screenings will be conducted on all volunteers. Once the screening results are provided, **the following would disqualify a person from serving in the Good News Club:**

- Any crime against children. No exceptions will be granted.
- Any sex crime of any type. No exceptions will be granted.
- Felony convictions. Any exceptions require approval of district directors.
- Additional criteria are left to the discretion of state and local leadership.

If anyone can't listen to the CD, they can listen at

- Toll free 866-878-4182
- www.cef-sc.org; click on left sidebar-Applications & Forms; click on Child Protection Audio File.

Everyone is required to listen to the audio!