

## **Code of Conduct for Volunteers participating in the Burnt Hills Ecumenical Vacation Bible School**

I promise to follow the rules and guidelines in this Code of Conduct. I understand that any actions inconsistent with or failure to take action mandated by this Code of Conduct may result in removal from my Volunteer Work Assignment.

As a VBS volunteer I will:

- Safeguard children and other youth entrusted to my care at all times
- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, and dignity
- Be positive, supportive, and caring in my speaking, writing, and interacting with children and youth
- Avoid situations where I am alone with any child
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism or comparison when working with children/youth
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse. Report suspected abuse to my supervisor, or if it involves my supervisor, report it to the pastor/parish director.
- Be aware that children/young people can easily become infatuated with a youth leader or an adult. If I sense this happening, I will not encourage it. I will make my supervisor aware of it so that he/she may resolve the matter, including reassigning me to other activities.
- Maintain appropriate physical and emotional boundaries with children/youth.
- Dress modestly and appropriately and not wear any clothing with offensive messages or pictures while working
- As a VBS volunteer I will not:
  - Commit an illegal or immoral act.
  - Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of minors.
  - Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs at anytime while volunteering.
  - Use profanity in the presence of any child, youth or adult.
  - Use discipline which frightens or humiliates a child.
  - Touch a child/youth in a sexual, overly affectionate or other inappropriate manner.
  - Place myself in a situation where my interactions with a child would not be visible to others.
  - Accept gifts from or give gifts to children in my care without approval from my supervisor.
  - Tolerate inappropriate or bullying behavior by a child/youth toward another child/youth.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

If the volunteer is a minor (under 18 years of age) a parent/guardian acknowledgement of review of this information is required.

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_