

Responsible Adults Covenant for Mission u

As a designated responsible adult with children or teen participants at Mission u, to be held July 25-27, 2024, at Wesley United Methodist Church in Yakima, Washington, I hereby accept the responsibilities outlined in this covenant and affirm my compliance with all United Methodist Women National Office policies and procedures related to reducing the risk of sexual abuse, ensuring the safety of teen participants, and administering appropriate disciplinary action when necessary.

I acknowledge that I have not been convicted of any illegal conduct involving a minor, specifically, but not limited to, child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, or emotional abuse).

I acknowledge and agree to be the designated responsible adult for the following children or teen participants:

Responsible Adult: _____ **Teen** _____

Responsible Adult: _____ **Teen** _____

Responsible Adult: _____ **Teen** _____

I understand that it is my responsibility as the responsible adult for these children or teen participants to provide supervision during Mission u. Should I become unable to perform my responsibilities, I agree to contact one of the Mission u Designated Safety Officers (DSO) and remain with the children or teen for whom I am responsible until an alternate responsible adult can be designated.

I agree to do everything possible to ensure the full participation of these teen participants and their fulfillment of the covenant they have individually signed and collectively agreed to uphold. Furthermore, I personally agree to uphold the standards set forth in the covenant for teen participants, abide by all restrictions placed on them, and serve as an exemplary role model at all times during the event or meeting.

While it is not illegal for me to engage in tobacco use, I will comply with all facility restrictions and use tobacco only in designated areas. Likewise, while it is not illegal for me to consume alcohol, I agree to refrain from using alcohol while I am responsible for the care of children or young adults at Mission u.

I agree to these guidelines and acknowledge this as a binding covenant for the protection of minors entrusted to me for the duration of this event.

I agree to report any suspected child abuse or inappropriate behavior between an adult and minor to a Mission u DSO.

When it becomes necessary to take disciplinary action for minor violations of the covenant, I agree to use non-physical forms of discipline and employ mediation techniques whenever possible. In so doing, I agree to reserve judgment until all the facts have been obtained and the teen participant committing the violation has been given the opportunity to explain their conduct. Any minor violations of the covenant shall be resolved as promptly and amicably as possible. Responsibility for maintaining the covenant rests with each teen participant and the entire group (that is, the responsible adult and the teen they are designated to supervise). Every effort should be made for mediation, reconciliation, and empowerment within the group to resolve the situation and negotiate the consequences for minor violations of the covenant. The responsible adult shall facilitate the mediation and allow the entire group to participate in repairing the brokenness of the covenant.

Minor violations of the covenant are defined as follows:

1. Excessive noise or disruptive behavior.
2. Disrespect for another person or property.
3. Late for curfew (not in his/her room when curfew begins).
4. Breaking curfew (leaving his/her room after curfew begins).
5. Late to scheduled activities, sessions, or meals.
6. Uncooperative attitude.

In the case of major violations of the covenant or civil or criminal violations of the law, the responsible adult shall immediately intervene without consulting with the rest of the group. The parent or guardian shall be notified promptly. Major violations of the covenant are not immediate grounds for termination of participation and should be decided between the responsible adult, child or teen participant, and parent or guardian. Civil or criminal violations of the law are immediate grounds for termination of participation. In the case of termination of participation, the responsible adult shall notify a Mission U DSO representative immediately and inform them of the circumstances.

Major violations of the covenant are defined as follows:

1. Repeated minor violations (more than three of the same or different).
2. Damaging, defacing, or destroying property.
3. Leaving the site without permission.
4. Skipping scheduled activities, sessions, or meals.
5. Violent or abusive behavior or language toward another.
6. Endangering one's own or another's safety.

Grounds for immediate termination of participation are defined as follows:

1. Any civil or criminal violation of the law.
2. Use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal substances.
3. Possession of firearms, weapons, or fireworks.

In the event that another participant witnesses a violation, they shall immediately refer the matter to the responsible adult for the teen participant involved. In cases of emergency or immediate response, the adult present shall take appropriate action until the situation is under control. Then, they shall notify the designated responsible adult and inform them of the circumstances. The designated responsible adult shall take the necessary steps to ensure proper handling of the situation and its accompanying consequences or disciplinary actions as outlined above.

*Printed Name of
Responsible Adult*

*Signature of
Responsible Adult*

Date