

Southern District Junior High Youth Gathering

Adult Leader Guidelines

Adult leaders must be at least 21 years of age. Each adult leader attending any Southern District Youth Gathering should read and carry out the guidelines listed below.

As a Family Group Adult Leader, you are expected to:

1. Participate fully in all Gathering events: Adult attendance at the Gathering is vital to its success. You and your entire group of youth should attend all planned sessions. (Free time is set aside in the schedule.) Your attendance and involvement sends a clear message to our youth. So, be prepared to be totally involved in all aspects of this Gathering.

2. Set a positive example: You are responsible for knowing the whereabouts and the behavior of your youth at all times. You are responsible for seeing to it that your youth participate in all aspects of the Gathering. If you “pick and choose” what activities to attend, you send the wrong message to your youth, the other participants and also the Gathering planners. Adult example and involvement are an asset for having youth gatherings.

3. Assist with behavioral issues: If one of your youth gets into a difficulty, we will involve you in the process of dealing with the situation. Also, if you see or hear of a situation which is inappropriate, you have the right as an adult leader to intervene, even if it is not your own group. Please involve the Gathering Staff, if necessary, or contact the appropriate adult group leader.

4. Enforce the “Lights Out” Rule: Youth are to be in the sleeping quarters with lights out by the times listed on the schedule. They will need their sleep as each day is filled with activities from morning until late at night. Make sure that your youth are in bed **before** you go to bed. It is important that participants be considerate of others.

5. Keep camp facilities free from damage: Any damage or breakage to camp facilities (e.g. rooms, commons area, doors, windows, screens, etc.) will result in a bill sent to your congregation with the name(s) of the person involved in causing the damage. Please inform your youth of this policy.

6. Provide co-ed leadership: Adult Leaders are assigned to sleeping quarters along with their youth. Therefore, if you have both male and female youth attending, you should strive to provide both male and female leaders. It is strongly recommended that all groups have at least two adults. If this is not feasible, please contact DCE Cindy Namanny the Southern District Youth Committee Chairperson for possible alternatives. Call 601-924-9999 if you need clarification and/or assistance!

7. Keep parents informed: Publish your travel plans, meeting times, emergency phone numbers and other necessary information. Parent/guardian should also be aware that can be called to come and pick up a youth if a severe problem occurs while at the Gathering.

8. Actively relate to your youth: Use the Gathering time to get to know your youth in a much more personal way; growing closer together, expanding your lines of communication and sharing your faith with them.

9. Communicate with Gathering planners: Study the Gathering schedule carefully and note any areas you would like to serve/help. Provide your youth a servant leadership example and encourage Gathering planners by offering your help and support!