

AWARENESS OF CHILD ABUSE

You have agreed to be a volunteer for Kappa Kidney Camp here at Camp Willson in Bellefontaine, Ohio. This camp is all about our children who are on dialysis or have had a kidney transplant. The ages of the children range from 8 to 18 years old. They come from all over the state of Ohio.

You will be working directly with the children. We want you to be able to minimize the potential for abuse or accusations of abuse from happening during your time here at Kappa Kidney Camp. Camp should be a fun time and a safe environment for the campers.

Be aware of the types of child abuse: physical, verbal, and sexual abuse. Abuse can happen anywhere and anytime. The people that are abusers can be strangers, family member, staff, volunteers, and other youth. The perpetrator keeps the child from disclosing through intimidation, threats, and rewards.

Preventive measures are very important to follow to make sure that we make this camp a safe environment for the campers. The following are examples to do this:

Touching policy:

1. Do the Grandma Standard – would you be uncomfortable if your Grandma walked into a room when you were with a child. If so, then that would mean that it was inappropriate touching.
2. Do hand to shoulder contact, side by side hugs, pats on head, “high fives”, hand shakes, eye contact, and smiles.

Privacy policy:

1. **Give the campers privacy when they are changing clothes, showering, or using toilet facilities.**
2. **If you are a day volunteer, then you are not allowed to be alone with a camper at anytime. Please adhere to this request.**

Discipline policy:

1. It should be age appropriate and related to the behavior that you are trying to change. Have a witness when disciplining.
2. Slapping, hitting, and spanking children are inappropriate disciplinary techniques.
3. Staff should be role models for exercising self-control.

We are required by law to report all incidents of suspected child abuse to the appropriate authorities, and that it is a punishable offense not to do so. You as a volunteer, agree to obey by the above policies and well as report any situation that seems to be questionable to the nephrologist on duty, Bill Metzger, or YMCA camp personnel as soon as you notice any problems. Take the time to have an excellent experience here at Kappa Kidney Camp. We hope that you will want to continue to be a volunteer for this group.

I have read all of the above information and understand the request to provide a safe environment for the campers at Kappa Kidney Camp.

Volunteer Signature

Date

Witness Signature

Date