Preventing Abuse and Maintaining Organizational Integrity Through ‘Two Person Leadership’

Two-person leadership (TPL) creates a checks and balances system that helps illuminate and prevent opportunities for abuse by eliminating one-on-one contact between organization members/leaders and youth. Additionally, TPL guidelines are designed to protect organization members and leaders from false reports of abuse.

One-on-one contact between organizational leaders and youth is prohibited within Outdoor Service Guides and the TPL practice must be followed without exception.

Key points regarding adult and youth contact during sanctioned activities:

- All organization members and leaders have been properly criminal history checked and vetted.
- Each OSG activity must be led by a minimum of two registered and CHC’d adults, both of whom have completed OSG Youth Protection Training.
- During a OSG activity, no adult or adults may be alone with a child. (The exception: parents and legal guardians may be alone with their own children. Also situations of medical necessity, i.e. a nurse or caregiver are allowed, per acknowledgment by group leadership.)
- Any interaction with a youth requiring a personal conference must first be communicated to the second TPL adult before the conference and held within view of that TPL adult.
- When driving a group of youth to and from activities, it is ideal to have both TPL adults in the same vehicle, however, when circumstances do not allow for this, the second TPL adult can follow closely behind the first TPL adult in a secondary vehicle. Caravaning vehicles must stay together at all times; if one pulls over, the other one must also do so.
- All scouting activities must be conducted with this same sort of intentional matrix.

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