



Information about The Meeting House Protection Plan for Children and Youth

One of the priorities of our church is to reflect the heart of God and to protect those He loves. We fulfill this priority by ensuring that our churches are a place of safety for everyone—a place where they can be loved, encouraged, and grow in their faith.

We believe it is the responsibility of The Meeting House to provide a safe environment for children and youth who are in attendance at all of our Sunday gatherings or who participate in our Meeting House sanctioned activities and programs wherever they may be carried out.

We do not want anything to hinder individuals in our communities from knowing and loving God, nor do we want to be a source of suffering or pain. Therefore, with a desire to create a strong community of faith, we declare we have zero tolerance for any form of abuse, neglect, sexual misconduct, harassment, or discrimination.

The Meeting House has adapted Plan to Protect® (copyright 2022) with their permission to develop a Protection Plan for Children and Youth for our church. Our Protection Plan sets out our protocols for creating a safe church community. It encompasses policies, procedures, and the parameters for engaging in ministry at The Meeting House. Our policies and procedures apply to all our staff and volunteers in a position of trust who have been specifically screened and trained to follow these policies and procedures in the areas they serve.

The Meeting House Protection Plan protects through:

- Awareness
- Recruitment, screening and training
- Child and Youth program protection procedures
- Reporting and response

Each of our policies and procedures follow the guidelines and principles for reducing the risk of abuse:

- When RISK increases, supervision should also increase
- RISK increases as isolation increases
- RISK increases as accountability and adherence to policies decrease
- RISK increases when there is an imbalance of power, authority, influence and control between a potential abuser and potential victim

If you have any questions or would like to know more please email us at protectionplan@themeetinghouse.com.