



# Center for Youth Mentorship

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## Mentor Guidelines

In order to participate in the Bethany Mentorship Program, all mentors must follow these guidelines at all times.

### **PROGRAM RULES**

The *Bethany Center for Mentorship* has rules to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, and the *Bethany Center for Mentorship* policy. The rules also are designed to protect and enhance the safety and well-being of all individuals attending the mentorship program. Following these rules at all times is a mandatory requirement.

### **MEETING WITH YOUTH**

1. All meetings and/or activities with youth will take place on the mentorship program campus, or as a part of a *Bethany Center for Mentorship* sponsored activity/field trip.
2. Off campus contact with mentees are strongly encouraged!! It's the personal relationship building that helps the mentee develop a strong sense of trust and connection to the mentor. *Weekly mentee contact outside of the mentoring program must be reported via the weekly mentor report*

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Transporting youth in your personal car is allowed. However, the youth must have a parental consent to allow their youth to ride in a personal vehicle of a mentor.

### **PHYSICAL CONTACT**

Many of the youth we work with will have a strong need and desire for positive physical contact with caring adults. You are encouraged to be a positive role model however, your physical contacts should be limited to holding a hand, giving a soft pat on the back, or the sharing of a hug in full view of other adults. Make sure that your interactions with youth can never be taken to be inappropriate by those who may observe your activities.

# Mentor Guidelines, cont.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

All information you are told about your youth is confidential and sharing that information with others is prohibited. You are not allowed to communicate to your youth that you will keep what they tell you private. You are allowed to tell them that you will keep private any communication that you are not required to report. Adherence to the following rules of confidentiality is very crucial for the safety of both the mentor and youth:

1. If a youth confides that he or she is the victim of sexual, emotional, or physical abuse you **MUST** notify the *Bethany Center for Mentorship* Director immediately.

Make a note of when this information was reported and to whom it was given. Remember this information is extremely personal and capable of damaging lives, so **DO NOT** share it with anyone except the appropriate authorities.

2. If a youth tells you of their involvement in any illegal activity you must tell the *Bethany Center for Mentorship* Director immediately. Again, make a note of when this information was reported and to whom it was given.

**These procedures are for the protection of all youth, mentors, and volunteers participating in the *Bethany Center for Mentorship* program.**

**We deeply appreciate your willingness to participate in the *Bethany Center for Mentorship* program. If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to call the *Bethany Center for Mentorship*.**

**I have read, understand, and agree to strictly abide by the *Bethany Center for Mentorship* Mentor Guidelines. I understand that failure to comply with these procedures at all times may result in my removal from participation in the program.**

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_