

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Applicable for Junior High and High School Youth Volunteering or Working with Minors

As a youth volunteering or working with minors through the diocese, I promise to strictly follow these rules and guidelines as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth (minors under the age of 18) of our diocese.

Standards of Conduct for Youth

As a youth volunteer, I will:

- Respect the adults and supervisors with whom I interact.
- Protect and care for all children or other youth in my care.
- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy and dignity.
- Take care to be positive, supportive and caring in my speaking, writing and actions with the children/youth.
- Report any kind of abuse to my supervisor, parent, principal or pastor.
- Maintain appropriate physical and emotional boundaries with the children/youth.
- Dress appropriately and not wear any clothing with offensive messages or pictures.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with a child/youth.
- Seek to affirm good behavior in children/youth and avoid criticism or comparison that could hurt.
- Be aware that young people can easily become overly attached to a youth leader or an adult. If I sense that is happening, I will not encourage it. I will make my supervisor, parent, principal or pastor aware of it so that he/she can help in the matter.

As a youth volunteer, I will not:

- Commit an illegal or immoral act.
- Possess or use tobacco products or alcohol or illegal drugs at any time.
- Verbally or physically threaten or abuse anyone.
- Use profanity in the presence of children/youth.
- Touch a child/youth in a sexual, overly affectionate or other inappropriate manner.
- Sexually harass or make sexually explicit statements.
- Tolerate inappropriate or bullying behavior.
- Promote, during my ministry, any view contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Place myself in a situation where my interaction with a child/youth cannot be witnessed.
- Participate in private visits, parties or other activities with the children/youth unless approved by my supervisor.
- Develop inappropriate personal relationships with children over the Internet or through other forms of communication.
- Accept gifts from or give gifts to children/youth in my care without approval from my supervisor.

I have read, understand and agree to these *Standards of Conduct* when volunteering at St. Juliana

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Date signed: _____

- I have discussed the *Standards of Conduct* rules and guidelines with my child:

Parent Signature: _____