



## Child Protection Policy

### Introduction:

This Child Protection Policy is established to ensure the safety and well-being of all children within our organization's care and to comply with the requirements set forth in the Child Protection Law, Act no. 238, Public Acts of 1975, as amended, in the State of Michigan.

### Definitions:

**Child:** A person under 18 years of age.

**Child Abuse:** Any harm or threatened harm to a child's health or welfare that occurs through non-accidental physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, or exploitation by a caregiver.

**Child Neglect:** Failure of a parent, guardian, or other caregiver to provide for a child's basic needs, including food, shelter, clothing, medical care, or supervision.

**Mandated Reporter:** Individuals who are required by law to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

### General Guidelines:

**Registration:** Upon arrival, a camper will be screened by the Health Officer to observe their physical condition. Not any bruises, cuts, or markings on the child's body. Similar screening will be taken by the Waterfront Director during swim tests.

**Duty to Report:** All employees are mandated reporters and are required to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect.

**Confidentiality:** All reports of child abuse or neglect will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law.

**Training:** Employees will receive training on recognizing signs of child abuse or neglect and reporting procedures.

**Zero Tolerance:** Our organization maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards child abuse or neglect. If child abuse is suspected, follow the actions to report. If suspected abuse occurred at camp, the camp must separate the alleged perpetrator from campers until the incident is fully investigated, until the threat is removed, and as long as necessary to protect the safety and welfare of the campers.

**Actions to Report Child Abuse or Neglect:**

**Immediate Reporting:** Any suspicion of child abuse or neglect must be reported immediately to the appropriate authorities, such as Central Intake, Child Protective Services, or local law enforcement.

**Documentation:** Within 72 hours, a written document shall be made to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Centralized Intake for abuse and neglect. The written form is called Report of Actual or Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect (DHS-3200). Employees should document any observations or suspicions of child abuse or neglect, including dates, times, and specific details.

**Cooperation:** Employees must cooperate fully with any investigations conducted by child protective services or law enforcement agencies.

**Acknowledgment:**

I acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand the Child Protection Policy of Kimball Camp Outdoor Center. I understand my responsibilities as a mandated reporter and agree to comply with the guidelines outlined in this policy.

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

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