

# POLICY

---

Child abuse is defined as any verbal abuse, online abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or infliction of injury. Examples of sexual abuse are: rape, incest, sodomy, lewd or lascivious behavior which includes wrong types of speech, inappropriate use of communication devices or touching.

In order to protect the child from abuse and our workers from false accusations, the following steps must be taken.

1. Always provide adult supervision for children in our care.
2. Two-worker (minimum) rule: Two *CEF* workers, paid or volunteer, must be present at any *CEF* activity where children or minors are present including online or by phone.
  - a. Never be alone with a child/children in any setting.
  - b. Never be alone with a minor in any setting, unless the minor's parent has signed a waiver.
3. Ensure that all rooms where ministry is taking place are accessible (not locked) with a window in the door or the door left wide open. There should be no private conversations, texts or online chats.
4. Report to supervisory staff all suspicious or inappropriate behavior between any *CEF* worker and a child or minor.
  - a. Supervisory staff must complete R-9 (see USA Operations & Policy Manual) and investigate incident immediately.
5. Supervisory staff must make random visits of *CEF* sponsored activities.
6. Overnight activities sponsored by *CEF* involving children or minors must be approved by the local or state director and the local committee or state board.

## PRE-SERVICE SCREENING

All volunteers who have contact with minors (in person, online or by phone), all paid staff and all

committee/board members who represent and/or participate in *CEF*;

1. Be screened by a face-to-face interview
2. Show a government issued photo ID
3. Read the Child Protection Policy.
4. Listen to or view the *Protecting Today's Child* presentation.
5. Read and sign the Worker's Compliance Agreement.
6. Complete the Confidential Screening Form.
7. Complete the Background/Reference Check Authorization (parent must sign for a minor).

**For adults** (18 and older), in addition to 1-7, *CEF* must:

8. Conduct a criminal background check with these minimum requirements
  - National Criminal Database Search
    - If a state or county does not report to the National Criminal Database, then a state or county report is required.
  - National Sex Offender Registry Search
  - Social Security Number Address History Trace

Notes:

- These are minimum requirements. State boards determine if additional requirements are necessary for exercising due diligence.
- If your legal jurisdiction requires more, you must also comply with their requirements.

**For minors** (ages 14-17), in addition to 1-7, *CEF* must:

9. Check two references, one of which is the pastor.

**For all adult staff** (paid or volunteer), in addition to 1-8, *CEF* must:

10. Criminal record check for all states where the worker lived in the past five years.
11. Check at least two references, one of which is the pastor.