

Franciscan University's Christian Outreach Child Protection Policies January 2007

Franciscan University is in full compliance with the Diocese of Steubenville's Child Protection Policy. When you attend a High School Youth Conference on the campus of Franciscan University of Steubenville, you can be assured that we have done as much as possible to create a safe environment for both the youth and the adult chaperones. The following policies govern adult and youth participation at the conferences:

- 1) All speakers, musicians, and entertainers at the Franciscan University High School Youth Conferences are required to have a background check prior to the start of the conference.
- 2) All University conference staff and student workers in the areas of housing and support security are required to have background checks.
- 3) All adults who serve as chaperones must be at least **21 years old**, fill out an application, and be approved to work with teenagers and minor children in their home diocese.
- 4) All adult volunteers and special ministers who serve at the High School Youth Conferences are required to have background checks.
- 5) The sleeping arrangements provided by Franciscan University meet the Diocese of Steubenville's Child Protection Policy. Only registered adults with wristband identification will be allowed into any of the sleeping areas or sessions on campus (including Mass). The dormitories include St. Francis Hall, Marian Hall, Thomas More Hall, Kolbe/Clare Halls and Trinity Hall. Youth participants and adults are housed (minimum of 4 persons per room) in dorm rooms and lounges. Room doors are required to stay open throughout the sleeping hours. Security and housing personnel will monitor the hallways throughout the sleeping hours. Dorms are closed to participants throughout the day. Showers are available to adults and youth at separate, designated times.
- 6) If your diocese prohibits adults from sleeping in the same room as their youth, we can accommodate you on campus. Adults will be housed in rooms next to or across from their youth. Please be aware that in this case, your adults may have to share a room with adults from other groups and your youth may have to share rooms with youth from other groups, in order to accommodate the number of participants in attendance. Please be aware that this does not limit the extent of the responsibility of your chaperones to supervise and discipline your youth.
- 7) Within the High School Youth Conference materials, we have included 3 pages: this declaration of "Compliance with Diocesan Protection Policy", an "FUS Youth Conference Rules and Guidelines for Adult Chaperones" and an "Adult Chaperone Application".

It is required that all Adult Chaperones review the first two forms and then fill out and sign the Adult Chaperone Application. The Adult Chaperone Application requires the signature of the group organizer as well. An Adult Chaperone Application must be on file for every Adult Chaperone prior to the start of the conference or participation will be denied.

- 8) In addition, the Group Organizer's Manual, which contains more detailed suggestions for adult chaperones, can be downloaded from the "franciscanyouth.com" web site or obtained by calling 1-800-437-8368.

We have a letter on file from our diocesan attorney stating that Franciscan University of Steubenville is in compliance with the Child Protection Policy of the Diocese of Steubenville, and we will gladly fax or send you a copy if necessary.