

Definitions of Terms to Identify Youth Program Workers

Registered SEYM Youth Program Worker: an adult who has been through an application process and has been approved by the Yearly Meeting. Registered SEYM Youth Program Workers are approved to work with youth on an extended basis and may supervise non-registered volunteers at SEYM events with planned youth programs.

Designated SEYM Youth Program Worker: an adult who has been selected to be a primary or full time worker in an SEYM youth program. A Designated SEYM Youth Program Worker must become a Registered SEYM youth program worker before the commencement of his or her work with youth in the SEYM Youth Program.

Youth Program Volunteer or Part-time Volunteer: an adult or older youth who serves in a youth program, usually temporarily, assisting the Designated SEYM Youth Program Workers, acting as a resource person, leading or presenting particular activities, etc. This person works under the supervision of the Designated SEYM Youth Program Worker(s) and may or may not be a Registered SEYM youth program worker.

Definitions of Child Abuse

The following are the definitions of child abuse. The definitions which are provided in the presentation, "Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse" are included here in italics.

Child abuse: Physical, emotional or sexual abuse of a minor (under the age of 18) by an adult or another minor.

Physical abuse: The intentional injury of a child, ranging from minor bruises and lacerations to severe neurological trauma and death. This includes, but is not limited to, striking, biting or shaking. Injuries include bruises, fractures, cuts, and burns.

Emotional abuse: Emotional abuse may occur when a parent/caregiver fails to provide the understanding, warmth, attention, and supervision the child needs for healthy psychological growth. Also, when a parent/caregiver ignores, terrorizes, blames, belittles or otherwise makes a child feel that he's worthless and incompetent.

Sexual abuse of a child: Sexual abuse occurs when an adult exploits a child for sexual gratification. Sexual abuse is not limited to intercourse. Exposing oneself to a child and fondling a child's genitals are considered sexual abuse. So is using a child for production of pornographic materials. Sexual abuse includes the following: unwelcome sexual activity with a child of any age; any form of sexual activity, whether unwelcome or welcome, with an underage child.

Under Florida law, any sexual activity with a child under the age of 16 is a crime. Any sexual activity with a 16 or 17 year old is a crime if the other person is over 24 years of age or in a "position of familial or custodial authority" over the child. "Lewd and lascivious conduct" in the presence of a child under 16 is also a crime. (Ref. Florida statutes chapters 794 and 800.)