

Ashland Family YMCA

Child Abuse Prevention Information for Parents

Dear Parents,

The safety of children in our programs is of the utmost importance to the YMCA. We design our programs, policies and practices to ensure that children are safe and have positive experiences while in our care. Listed below are policies that apply to YMCA staff and volunteers in all of our youth programs. Please familiarize yourself with these policies. If you ever see these policies being violated, please contact: Laurie Schaaf, Associate Director at (541)482-9622 ext. 307 / laurie@ashlandymca.org or Broderick Lindeman, Development Director, at (541)482-9622 ext. 337 / broderick@ashlandymca.org. Or mail anonymous concerns to YMCA, 540 YMCA Way, Ashland, OR 97520.

If you'd like to learn more about prevention, please attend one of the Darkness to Light trainings offered at the YMCA by the [Children's Advocacy Center](#). Thank you for helping us build strong kids, families, and communities.

1. Reference and/or background checks are conducted, documented, and filed on all employees and volunteers prior to contact with children. Staff/Volunteers are required to complete child abuse prevention training.
2. In order to protect YMCA staff, volunteers and program participants, at no time during a YMCA program may a leader be alone with a single child where they cannot be observed by others.
3. At no time may children in childcare/camp programs be alone in or unsupervised in bathrooms, showers or locker rooms.
4. YMCA staff/volunteers may not date program participants under the age of 18.
5. YMCA staff/volunteers may not transport or arrange to meet program children outside of the sanctioned YMCA program.
6. YMCA staff/volunteers may not discipline children by use of physical punishment or by failing to provide the necessities of care (lunch, sleep, bathroom, water, etc.).
7. YMCA staff/volunteers may not verbally or emotionally abuse or punish children.
8. All staff are mandatory abuse reporters. If any staff/volunteer has reasonable cause to believe that a child they are in contact with has suffered abuse, they are required by law to report it immediately to their supervisor and authorities.
9. Staff/Volunteers who witness violations of our policies will respond by interrupting the behavior, insuring safety of youth and reporting violations to a supervisor.