

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring
Religious Education (RE) Program**

**Confidential Screening Form for Volunteers in
RE Activities involving Children and Youth**

Thank you for your interest in working with the children and youth of our congregation. We take seriously our responsibility of assuring the safety of our young people, and require that all volunteers complete this screening form.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the UUCSS Child Safety Policy, please contact the DRE or any RE committee member.

(please print)

NAME:

First Middle Last

Have you ever used a different name? Yes____ No____

If yes, please list other names, with dates.

How long have you been participating with this congregation? _____

Religious Education activities you are interested in:

ADDRESS & CONTACT INFORMATION:

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of years at this address: _____

Telephone: (home) _____

(work) _____

(cell) _____

E-mail: _____

If you have a driver's license, please provide the license number:

State _____ Number _____

BACKGROUND:

A. If you have had training or prior experience in youth-related work, please describe.

B. Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offense? Yes ____ No ____

C. Have you ever been accused of any crimes against a person, including rape, incest, sexual exploitation of a minor, or sexual or physical assault of a minor?

Yes ____ No ____

- Have you ever resigned from employment or been disciplined or terminated by any employer for reasons related to sexual misconduct or child abuse?

Yes ____ No ____

- Other than the above, is there any fact or circumstance involving you or your background that would call into question your being entrusted with the supervision, guidance, and care of children and youth?

Yes ____ No ____

If your response is "Yes" to questions B, C, D, or E, you must provide detailed information to the DRE.

PERSONAL REFERENCES:

Please provide the names of two people, not relatives, who are familiar with your character as it pertains to your experience with children or youth.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

CODE OF ETHICS FOR VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH

Adults and older youth who are in leadership roles are in a position of stewardship and play a key role in fostering spiritual development of both individuals and the community. It is, therefore, especially important that they be well qualified to nurture a positive sense of self and a spirit of independence and responsibility.

The relationship between youth and their leaders must be one of mutual respect. There are no more important areas of growth than those of self-worth and the development of a healthy identity as a sexual being. Adults play a key role in assisting children and youth in these areas of growth. Wisdom dictates that children, youth, and adults suffer damaging effects when leaders become sexually involved with young persons in their care; therefore, leaders will refrain from engaging in sexual, seductive, or erotic behavior with children and youth. Neither shall they sexually harass or engage in behavior with youth that constitutes verbal, emotional or physical abuse.

Affirmation

- I have read and understand the Code of Ethics and the UUCSS Child Safety Policy. I agree to adhere to the Code of Ethics and Child Safety Policy. I understand that if I violate them appropriate action will be taken.
- I affirm that I have never committed any form of child abuse, including sexual abuse.
- I agree to notify the DRE immediately should I be accused of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, or other sexual improprieties during the time I am working with children and youth in this congregation.
- I authorize the DRE or RE Committee to contact references and receive information about my background regarding my character and fitness for work with children and youth. I authorize the persons I have listed as references to provide such information about me. I understand that the DRE or RE Committee may check registries of sex offenders and may contact police agencies for information about my background. I hereby release and hold harmless from liability any person or organization that provides or receives information regarding my suitability to serve as a volunteer with children and youth.
- I agree to participate in RE teacher orientation and training.
- I affirm that all of the information I have provided is correct.

This information will be available only to those responsible for screening volunteers, and to members of an incident response team, or as required by law.

Name Printed _____

Name Signed _____

Date _____