

# Staff Orientation Week Follow-Up Discussion



CampSafe®

Share with staff that they all have taken the **CampSafe® training**. Set the tone, recognizing that we all approach the topic of child sexual abuse differently and we need to be sensitive to each other. Explain that the need for this type of education is important for the well being of everyone at camp and that it will also serve them later in life both personally and professionally. Discuss confidentiality.

## Ask a few open ended questions:

- What were some take aways you remember from the CampSafe® training?
- What did you learn that surprised you?
- How did you feel taking a training on the topic of child sexual abuse?

## Through discussion, in large or small groups, review the following:

- Define physical and non-physical sexual abuse.
- The importance of vigilant supervision during down time; meals; showers; swim; rest hour; bedtime.
- Discuss the importance of utilizing supervision time to provide wellness checks for campers and staff.
- Review with staff acceptable and unacceptable interactions between staff and campers and consequences for unacceptable behavior.
- Discuss the value of teaching and modeling respectful behavior; ensure staff understands zero tolerance policy regarding abuse and inappropriate behavior such as staff-staff teasing, sharing love life stories, innuendo. Remind staff that the campers have ears and eyes and are looking to them as role models.
- Role play situations that commonly occur in your camp setting - you can use the scenarios from the CampSafe® training or create new ones. The main goal is to discuss the scenarios to decide what is appropriate and what is not appropriate. What steps need to be taken.
- Make staff aware of how pressures of camp can impact staff behavior - staff needs to be aware of their feelings and limits at all times. Always good to remind staff that asking for help when appropriate is a strength not a weakness.

## Suggested group activity:

- Divide the group into two groups. Put them in different rooms and give each group a large pad and easel.
- Ask one group to list the characteristics of the ideal counselor.
- Ask the other group to list the characteristics of a potential child sex offender (counselor) at camp.
- Bring the groups together and compare the lists.

Often times you will find the two lists are remarkably similar. This is a great way to begin a discussion of the difference between a good role model and crossing boundaries that might be interpreted as grooming behavior.



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