

## **HOW ADULTS ASSURE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT?**

- Establishing boundaries appropriate to the ministerial relationship
- Trained and honest leaders
- Being aware that everything in the building/facility works properly and that the facility is safe and secure
- Knowing my job and being prepared to do that job
- Be properly trained to respond to emergency situations
- Knowing and abiding by the behavioral Standards of the Diocese of Wilmington and of the Catholic Church
- Understanding the gravity of inappropriate behavior and the need to immediately report inappropriate behavior I observe
- Taking swift action and support when problems occur
- Knowing and abiding by the Diocesan policy regarding the appropriate ratio of young people to chaperons
- Earning the respect of parents and other adults in my role as a leader in ministry
- Respecting the individuality and celebrate the gifts and talents of young people
- Being a positive role model at all times
- Encouraging everyone to share the responsibility for creating and maintaining a safe environment
- Remaining free of unwarranted suspicion

## **HOW YOUNG PEOPLE BENEFIT FROM A SAFE ENVIRONMENT?**

- Knowing I am loved because I am a child of God
- Knowing I am fully accepted just as I am
- Knowing I can trust the adults who guide me
- Knowing where to go for help
- Knowing no one will get angry if I raise a concern
- Knowing that this space is safe and secure
- Knowing that my well-being is the first priority
- Knowing I am responsible for my actions and, therefore, I will think before I act
- Knowing I am held accountable for my actions
- Knowing that adults will be honest
- Having fun
- Knowing I am better off because I am involved
- Giving full attention to the activity and those leading it
- Embracing an environment free of anything that can harm me