



Suggested Guidelines for Staff Working with Youth in Foster Care

<p>1. "Keep it to Yourself"—Always Exercise Confidentiality</p> <p>Service Providers should always maintain a level of confidentiality when working with youth. Disclosing information or using information inappropriately breaches confidentiality.</p> <p>2. "Watch Your Mouth"—No Verbal Abuse</p> <p>Service providers should never use profanity when working with youth in care. Youth should always be spoken to in a respectful manner. A youth's dignity and self esteem should never be shattered through a verbal attack.</p> <p>3. "M.Y.O.B. (Mind Your Own Business)"—No Gossiping</p> <p>Staff should never gossip about the youth in their care, co-workers or their personal lives.</p> <p>4. "Know Your Place"—Maintain Boundaries</p> <p>Staff should know their boundaries or limits with residents.</p> <p>5. "Can't Touch This"—No Physical Abuse</p> <p>Staff should not hit youth under any circumstances.</p> <p>6. "Dress to Impress"—Appropriate Attire</p> <p>Staff should always dress appropriately.</p> <p>7. "You Know Better"—It's the Youth Residence Not Yours</p> <p>Staff should never take care of personal business at the Youths residence. Wash your own clothes at home and don't use the youth's toiletries, detergent and food for personal use.</p>	<p>8. "We are Family"—Respect Family Ties</p> <p>Respect young people's relationships with their families.</p> <p>9. "Everybody's Got to Eat"—No Withholding Meals</p> <p>All young people are entitled to meals. When young people miss a meal, staff should not deprive them of their right to eat UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.</p> <p>10. "Now Not Later"—Complete Tasks In A Timely Manner</p> <p>Staff should not procrastinate when taking care of a young person's issue.</p> <p>11. "Equal, No Better"—No Favoritism</p> <p>Staff should not play favorites with young people or discriminate.</p> <p>12. "Independent or Dependent?"—assist, Don't Take Over</p> <p>Staff should promote independence for young people.</p> <p>13. "Act Your Age"—Be A Role Model</p> <p>Staff should never provoke or "stalk" a young person.</p> <p>14. "I Got My Eyes On You"—Are You Doing A Good Job?</p> <p>Staff should have some type of anonymous review by young people regularly.</p> <p>15. "Do It With Me, Not To Me!"—Keep Youth Involved</p> <p>YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD ALWAYS BE HEARD, NO MATTER WHAT THE SITUATION MAY BE, AND NO MATTER WHO'S INVOLVED!</p>
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