



AYSO **safe haven**



Section Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate

Purpose

The AYSO volunteer position of section child and volunteer protection advocate is intended to oversee the child and volunteer protection program in the section in accordance with the AYSO Safe Haven program.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

The section child and volunteer protection advocate is expected to:

1. Support the AYSO National Safe Haven Program in both specifics and in spirit;
2. Support the section director in the promotion and implementation of the AYSO Safe Haven Program, including the three main elements of volunteer protection;
3. Be familiar with the Child Protection Act of 1993, the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, the Good Samaritan Laws of the State of _____, and that state's provisions for the reporting of child abuse and neglect;
4. Work with the area and regional CVPAs to assure that all volunteers complete application forms and screening procedures are in place;
5. Be aware of AYSO's definitions of levels of risk, inform prospective volunteers that they are screened at a level appropriate to the level of risk, and maintain a copy of AYSO's screening policy;
6. Work with area and regional CVPAs to assure that AYSO protocols to protect privacy and privileged information are enforced;
7. Serve as a resource and/or a facilitator to the area and regional CVPAs on the requirements for good faith reporting of abuse and molestation to law enforcement agencies and child welfare agencies;
8. Promote the standards of behavior and conduct as laid out in the child and volunteer protection policies, procedures, and guidelines of the AYSO Safe Haven program;
9. Function as a resource to area and regional CVPAs regarding AYSO Safe Haven policies and procedures and how to implement the program;

10. Communicate with area and regional CVPAs regarding AYSO Safe Haven policies and procedures;
11. Work with area directors and regional commissioners to assure that CVPAs are trained and certified. Schedule and, where appropriate, provide training class;
12. Assist the area CVPAs with reference checks on the regional CVPAs where applicable; and
13. Communicate with area directors and regional commissioners regarding scheduled CVPA educational opportunities at the Section Conferences and throughout the year.

Qualifications and Desired Skills

To be considered for the position of section child and volunteer protection advocate, the applicant must:

1. Attend and pass the AYSO Role of Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate certification and training;
2. Successfully pass screening, including a background check;
3. Be appointed by the section director;
4. Achieve a reputation of respect, fairness, and trustworthiness in the community; and
5. Register with the National Support & Training Center as a child and volunteer protection advocate by providing documentation signed by the section director.

Supervision Protocols

While performing as the section child and volunteer protection advocate, the volunteer is:

1. Subject to the bylaws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and guidelines of AYSO;
2. Under the overall authority of and directly supervised by the section director; and
3. To maintain the recommended adult to child supervision ratio of 1:8 or less; that is one adult for every eight or fewer children and two adults (one of whom may be the coach and one of whom should be of the same gender as the group) present at all times. For the protection of both the children and the volunteer, no volunteer should permit himself or herself to be alone with any child or group of children (except his or her own) during AYSO-sponsored activities.

Time Commitment

The anticipated time commitment for a section child and volunteer protection advocate is a full year. The estimated hours to fulfill duties by month shall be filled in by the section director:

Jan:	hrs.	Feb:	hrs.	Mar:	hrs.	Apr:	hrs.	May:	hrs.	Jun:	hrs.
Jul:	hrs.	Aug:	hrs.	Sep:	hrs.	Oct:	hrs.	Nov:	hrs.	Dec:	hrs.

Orientation, Training, Certification, and Continued Education Provided

To prepare a volunteer for the position of section child and volunteer protection advocate, AYSO will offer the following educational opportunities which section child and volunteer protection advocates are expected to take advantage of and participate in, as appropriate.

1. Orientation by the section director;
2. The Role of the Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate workshop at the annual Section Conferences;
3. Child protection workshops;
4. Volunteer protection workshops; and
5. Safe Haven educational resources and materials.

Activity Locations

While performing the duties of section child and volunteer protection advocate, the volunteer is limited to the following locations, unless expressly authorized in writing by the section director hold activities in another location.

1. All section sponsored activities;
2. Area and regional activities within the section;
3. Section Conferences; and
4. Section staff meetings.