

Thank you for your desire to invest in the spiritual growth and care of our young people. At Seneca Community Church we are committed to maintaining a safe environment for our children and youth learn how to know, serve, and proclaim Jesus Christ. As times have changed, it has become necessary to take extra precautions to ensure the protection of our children, youth, and volunteer workers. In light of this, we will require every volunteer to do three things; fill out this application, agree to our protection policy, & submit to a criminal background check.

Personal Information:

Application Date ___/___/___

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Present Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Date of Birth ___/___/___ S.S.# _____

Email _____ Cell number () _____ - _____

Marital Status: Married Divorced Single Occupation: _____

History/Criminal Background:

How long have you attended Seneca Community Church? _____ (months or years)

Are you a PARNTER of Seneca Community Church? Yes No

Do you have any previous experience working with children or youth? (Describe)

Please list other churches you have attended regularly during the past five years:

Have you ever been charged with, indicted for, or pled guilty to any abuse, crime, sexual misconduct, or sexual molestation of a minor? Yes No

Have you ever been convicted of or plead guilty to a crime (other than traffic violations) Yes No

Will you give your consent for Seneca Community Church to use this information to perform a criminal background check for the protection of our children & youth? Signature: _____

Child Protection Agreement:

I have read and agree with the Child Protection Policy of Seneca Community Church. I am committed to uphold this policy for the safety and wellbeing of our children & youth. If I observe or hear of any inappropriate interactions with our children, I will report this concern right away to the appropriate ministry leader and/or one of the deacons. Signature: _____

*Please submit this application by email to SCC@sandcreektelco.com or in person to Pastor Jon. We're committed to your confidentiality. This information will not be shared beyond the appropriate individual(s) required!

For Office Use Only:

Reviewed Application

Ran Background Check

Approved

At Seneca Community Church we are committed to providing a safe and loving environment for our children and youth. To ensure that a safe and loving environment exists we will require every adult who works with our youth or children to adhere to the following commitments, policies & procedures:

Personal Commitment:

- I will continue to grow in my relationship with Christ and seek to be a role model with my words & actions!
- I will do my best to be prepared for ministry and attend any meetings related to my area of involvement.
- I will treat all children with the utmost love and respect and pray for them.
- I will do my best to never be alone with a child or leave children unattended at any time.

Policies:

- Seneca Community Church will not tolerate any child abuse or neglect.
- The Church will uphold and enforce to the best of its abilities a strict policy that prohibits unwanted touching (sensual, exploitative or otherwise uncomfortable in nature) of children.
- Any adult committed to weekly ministry with our children or youth will be required to fill out a children/youth worker application, agree with this policy, and consent to a criminal background check.
- All adult volunteers shall be screened by a background check to obtain any information regarding their criminal history or abuse of children.
- Any adult volunteer who has been convicted of any crime or abuse against a child will be subject to the restrictions of State and Federal laws and will require a review by the deacon board.
- Any adult volunteer should attend Seneca for at least 6 months before working with our children or youth.
- Any volunteer must be a partner of Seneca Community Church to hold a teaching position.
- Every effort will be made to have a minimum of two volunteers working with children in a specific location. When this is not possible a door must be left open or a classroom must have a window.
- Whenever possible, children are to be encouraged to take care of their own bathroom needs.
- Children (Age 3-K) will not be released from class unless they have been picked up by a parent or guardian.
- A positive approach to discipline shall be practiced. Clear, consistent, age-appropriate limits will be established to help the children function appropriately and safely with each other.
- Any overnight activity or extended outing will require a parental permission/ medical release form.
- We will maintain an adult/student ratio of at least 1:10 for any planned event or activity.
- Overnight events attended by youth of both genders will be chaperoned by adults of both genders.

Procedures:

- Any party involved in a situation or allegation of abuse must report this through the proper channels (ministry leader, pastor, or deacon) and maintain complete confidentiality.
- Upon observing or suspecting any abuse, the priority of the caregiver will be to immediately ensure the child's safety and comfort before reporting any allegations to the ministry leader, pastor, or a deacon.
- We (deacons) will take all allegations of child abuse and/or neglect seriously and document any incidents.
- We (deacons) will report any incident immediately to the proper authorities, notify the parents/guardians involved, and contact the Department of Children and Family Services (1-800-842-2288) within 12 hours.
- We (deacons) will treat the accused with dignity and support. If the accused is a caregiver, that person should be relieved temporarily of his or her duties until the investigation is finished.