

Westminster Unitarian Church

CODE OF ETHICS FOR ADULTS AND OLDER YOUTH WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Adults and older youth who are in leadership roles are in a position of stewardship and play a key role in fostering spiritual development of both individuals and the community. It is, therefore, especially important that anyone in leadership positions be well qualified to provide the special nurture, care and support that will enable children and youth to develop a positive sense of themselves and a spirit of independence and responsibility.

The relationship between youth and their leaders must be one of mutual support if positive potential is to be realized. There are no more important areas of growth than those of self-worth and the development of a healthy identity as a sexual being. Adults play a key role in assisting children and youth in these areas of growth. Wisdom dictates that children, youth, and adults suffer damaging effects when leaders become sexually involved with your people in their care; therefore leaders will refrain from engaging in sexual, seductive, erotic behavior with children and youth. Neither shall they sexually harass or engage in behavior with youth that constitutes verbal, emotional or physical abuse.

Leaders shall be informed of the Code of Ethics and agree to it before assuming their role. In cases of violation of this code, appropriate action will be taken.

I have read and understand the above statements of position, expectations and actions.

Name (printed):

Name (signed):

Date: