

Guidelines for Staff

Model for youth the behavior that is expected of them.

- *Be respectful and courteous to youth and to other adults. Never put down or make fun of a youth or another staff person.
- *No drinking alcoholic beverages. (Kids need to know that you can have fun without liquor.)
- *Even though they can sometimes be exasperating, please do not use profanity (and please discourage kids from using it).
- *So as not to encourage an unhealthy habit, please refrain from smoking when with kids.
- *If you are driving, please model good driving habits.
- *Follow all our schedules, rules, etc.
- *Please participate in the program *with* the youth.

While we all want the youth we are responsible for to like us, Staff is not a popularity contest.

- *It is important to remember we are not kids - we're adults who enjoy being with young people and who care a lot about them.
- *Please don't allow youth to bend the rules .
- *Please don't play favorites or give different youth different rules.
- *Have fun and goof around with the kids, but don't hesitate to stop irresponsible or dangerous play. (Don't let young people do things where they could get hurt - even if they say they do it all the time. Don't ask them to do things that could leave us open to liability. If in doubt, ask.)
- *Don't be afraid to discipline - but do it with love. Never put-down a young person.

Please mingle with the kids and get to know them.

- *Sit with them in the youth center, at meals, on the bus, in the gym, wherever. Please don't make a little clique of chaperones.
- *Learn the names of your kids and call them by name.
- *Enjoy these kids and have fun. Let them see adults as *more* than authority figures.