

**MINOR VOLUNTEER PARENTAL CONSENT FORM**

GL 1050-1

Dear Parents/Guardians of Minor Volunteers:

Your Minor has requested to volunteer with a Catholic parish or school program. As a Minor Volunteer, he/she should have received safe environment lessons during the course of school or religious education classes prior to embarking in any volunteer capacity involving other Minors. Attached to this Consent Form is a summary of Interactions and Behaviors which we ask that you review with your child.

All Minor Volunteers work in conjunction with adult supervisors. The Minor Volunteers are required to abide by the rules and requests established by the program supervisor.

The following information is from the Diocese of Colorado Springs Manual for Parish Safe Environment Coordinators concerning Minor Volunteers:

Minor Volunteers

Parish/school nurseries sometimes utilize the assistance of Minors as helpers to watch infants and children. Further, Minors may also assist in other activities such as Vacation Bible School, etc. These young people can serve under the supervision of the screened and trained Responsible Parties. These young people should never be unsupervised and may never count as one of the Responsible Parties. Youngsters may never assist the children or infants in the restroom or change their diapers. Parents or guardians must sign a Minor Volunteer Parental Consent Form before their minor children may volunteer in any capacity with children.

By signing below, you are providing permission for your Minor to volunteer in the parish and/or school program and you will assist them in complying with the safe environment standards of the Diocese of Colorado Springs. Additional information about the Diocese's safe environment standards may be found at [www.diocs.org](http://www.diocs.org) under Child and Youth Protection Charter, including the Sexual Misconduct Policy for the Diocese of Colorado Springs which is the Code of Conduct for the Diocese.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Youth

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Youth

<p><b><i>Appropriate Physical Interaction</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Side Hugs</li><li>• Shoulder to shoulder or “temple” hugs</li><li>• Handshakes</li><li>• “High-fives” and hand slapping</li><li>• Pats on the head or back when culturally appropriate</li><li>• Holding hands (with smaller children in escorting situations)</li><li>• Holding hands during prayer</li></ul>	<p><b><i>Inappropriate Physical Interaction</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any form of affection unwanted by the child</li><li>• Showing affection in isolated areas</li><li>• Physical contact insisted on or requested by an adult or minor volunteer</li><li>• Inappropriate or lengthy embraces</li><li>• Full frontal hugs</li><li>• Kisses</li><li>• Touching knees or legs</li><li>• Touching buttocks, chest or genital areas</li><li>• Wrestling and tickling</li><li>• Corporal punishment</li><li>• Allowing a child to cling to another’s leg</li><li>• Massage</li></ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Behavior</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consistently applying the Guidelines for Working with minors</li><li>• Providing a safe environment where the dignity of and respect for every individual is ensured</li><li>• Knowing how and to whom to report inappropriate behavior</li><li>• Avoiding emotional attachment and/or vulnerable situations</li><li>• Awareness of the powerful attraction of minors to those in positions of trust and ability to refer minors developing dependency to another qualified adult</li></ul>	<p><b><i>Inappropriate Behavior</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact with minors via any personal communication tools (such as phone, instant messaging, e-mail, social networking site...)</li><li>• Being alone with minors while working in the scope of volunteer duties (such as a vehicle, restaurant, residence, sleeping facility, locker room, rest room, hot tub or pool, etc.)</li><li>• Allowing or assisting minors to have access to alcohol, drugs, pornographic material, inappropriate website, DVD, CD or any illegal substance.</li><li>• Photographing minors without parental consent</li><li>• Singling out a minor with a personal gift</li></ul>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Verbal Interaction</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Positive reinforcement</li><li>• Appropriate jokes</li><li>• Encouragement</li><li>• Verbal praise</li><li>• Program content communications</li></ul>	<p><b><i>Inappropriate Verbal Interaction</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Name calling</li><li>• Cursing</li><li>• Off-color or sexual jokes or innuendo</li><li>• Shaming</li><li>• Belittling</li><li>• Compliments/comments related to physical attributes</li><li>• Telling secrets/asking children to keep secrets</li><li>• Racial or ethnic insults or slurs or derogatory remarks about others</li><li>• Discussing or involving in any way in personal adult matters, including sexual issues</li></ul>