

Virtual Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Community Caring Community Child Protection Guidelines

Safety and Abuse Prevention/Response

Designated Reporters: UUMAC staff who supervise children and youth are legally mandated reporters of suspected child abuse and bound by Federal laws to acquire comprehensive background checks. To this end, UUMAC requires the following of them:

- Prior to UUMAC, submit to background check as per UUMAC's background check policy initially and, if still serving in this capacity, every three years thereafter (see policy adopted 11/2017);
- Prior to UUMAC, read and sign the *Code of Ethics for Persons Working with Children and Youth* (see policy adopted 6/1995);
- Prior to UUMAC, view the following 15-minute child abuse/neglect video (Protrainings, 2020) https://www.profirstaid.com/training_video/child-abuse
- If child abuse or neglect is suspected during UUMAC, follow the *UUMAC Policy Regarding Suspected Child Abuse* (adopted 6/1995) for reporting procedures;
- During UUMAC, a two-adults present rule is in effect for all Children, Youth, and Intergenerational virtual program activities.

Parents/Guardians: UUMAC seeks to provide a safe online environment for our children, but we must do so in the safest way possible:

- Parents/guardians are expected to know when their children are online and what virtual events their children are attending.
- Parents are expected to supervise their children while they are online.

All Members of the UUMAC Community: Virtual UUMAC attendees have the responsibility to nurture, support and care for all of the children in our community to the best of our ability. To this end, all UUMAC adults are expected to follow the following community rules:

- Sexually explicit literature or other media of any kind is prohibited
- No adult should be alone with a minor online except with permission from the minor's parent or guardian;
- No adult should engage in private communication not pertaining to Program matters with a minor;
- The two-adults present rule applies to all Program related communication outside of scheduled activities.
- No photographs of minors should be posted to public social media sites without written permission from the minor's parent/guardian;
- Other than Mystery Pals notes, candy and novelty items, no adult who is not a minor's parent or guardian may give a gift to a minor without parent/guardian permission.

Communication of Expectations

All of the above expectations will be communicated to the UUMAC community by the Children's Program Coordinator and/or Director as part of a virtual orientation or in writing. Infractions of these guidelines should immediately be reported to the Director.