

# BALTIMORE CHILD ABUSE CENTER'S GUIDE TO: CREATING A BLUEPRINT FOR CHILD PROTECTION



The true meaning of child protection is being prepared to respond to children in crisis. Children bring more than just clothes in their bags. They bring with them the anxiety, abuse, eating disorders, mental health issues, family trauma, and social pressures they have experienced at home. They are in crisis long before they get to camp, and we need to be prepared to respond because...

WHEN YOU  
PROTECT KIDS,  
YOU PROTECT  
**CAMP**

What's in your campers' bags that you don't even know about?



95%



#3

1 in 4 girls &  
1 in 6 boys will be  
victims of abuse by  
age 18

11% of adolescents  
have depressive  
disorder by age 18

15 million children  
witness domestic  
violence every year

95% of people with  
an eating disorder  
are 12-26 years old

21% of ACA Camp  
Crisis Hotline calls  
this past summer  
related to abuse

Suicide is the 3rd  
leading cause of death  
for kids aged 10-24

## STEPS TO CREATE YOUR CAMP'S CHILD PROTECTION BLUEPRINT

1



### Check Yourself

Conduct an evaluation, see what systems you have/don't have, ask your team "What if" questions, and look at your program from different eyes.

4



### Implementation

Put your policy into practice. Incorporate child protection into team discussions and supervision and create a culture of support.

2



### Take Inventory

Start to ask the essential questions about who is your staff, who else may be considered staff, who else may come into contact with kids, and what other programs may rent or use your facilities?

5



### Train Everyone

Help to protect staff from themselves and provide them with practical tools for how to work safely and minimize risk.

3



### Create Policy

Craft effective policies that cover all areas of camp operations from hiring and supervision to guidelines on interactions between individuals to being prepared to respond to crisis.

6



### Be Prepared for Crisis

Have your crisis action plan ready to go. Identify your key personnel and make sure that camp is prepared to respond to any bags your campers or staff may bring.

# TAKE ACTION



## RESOURCES

### Baltimore Child Abuse Center

<http://www.BaltimoreChildAbuseCenter.org/training>

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/>

### National Child Abuse Hotline

800-4-A-CHILD (800-422-4453)

<http://www.childhelp.org/hotline>

### State Laws on Reporting and Responding to Child Abuse and Neglect

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/can/reporting/>

**CONTACT  
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Baltimore Child Abuse Center