SAFE KIDS

THE SOUTH SHORE YMCA’S CHILD PROTECTION STEPS

- Screen Staff and Volunteers – all staff/volunteers with national criminal background and reference checks
- Child Abuse Prevention Training for all staff
- Careful Supervision and Monitoring of all programs
- Emphasis on Our Obligation as Mandatory Reporters of suspected child abuse
- Established South Shore YMCA Guidelines for staff and volunteers regarding appropriate physical, verbal and interactions with children/youth
- Program Design that prevents staff and volunteers from being alone with a child/youth where they cannot be observed by others
- Policies Limiting Staff Contact with children/youth outside of the South Shore YMCA programs or where one-adult/one-child situations could occur.

PARENTS’ CHILD PROTECTION STEPS

P Pay Attention to changes in behavior, such as sleeping or eating patterns, fear of a person or place and discomfort with physical contact.

R Report Concerns about staff or a volunteer. You may call Laureen Browning, Executive Director of Youth Development at 617-479-8500 ext. 169.

O Observe your child/youth’s programs by dropping in and asking questions.

T Talk to Them about their experiences in the South Shore YMCA programs, school, sports, church and other activities.

E Educate Yourself! Learn more about protecting your child at Darkness to Light www.d2l.org.

C Control your child/youth’s isolated interactions and watch for signs they are receiving extra attention (treats, gifts, rides, etc.).

T Trust Your Instincts! Tell us if something seems “strange”.

Questions to ask:

- Is anyone touching you in a way that you don’t like?
- Has anyone said anything to you that made you feel bad?
- Is anyone asking you to keep secrets?
- Is anyone scaring or threatening you?

SOUTH SHORE YMCA
ssymca.org