

Work Team/ Visitor Accountability Guidelines
Agua Viva Children's Home
Chimaltenango, Guatemala

NOTE: Each Member of the team needs to read and sign one copy.

The following guidelines are designed to: (1) protect the children and young adults living at Agua Viva from various forms of abuse, (2) establish a degree of accountability and protection for volunteer work team members, and (3) encourage work team members to model behavior and appearance which honors God during their visit to Agua Viva. In order to serve on a work team at Agua Viva, you must agree to the guidelines below:

- 1. Accountability Partners:** When interacting in any way with the children or young people at Agua Viva, you must be accompanied by at least one other team member who can serve as an "accountability partner." No volunteer worker may come to Agua Viva without at least one person to serve as an accountability partner.
- 2. Physical Appearance:** Be appropriate and modest. Female team members should be especially careful not to sexually challenge adolescent boys by their physical appearance; for example, halter tops, tank tops, other tight-fitting clothes, and short shorts should be avoided. Male team members should also avoid short shorts and should wear shirts even when working or playing sports.
- 3. Romantic Activity:** Dating or other romantic activity among unmarried work team members should not be a part of your visit to Agua Viva. Since romantic activity among the children at Agua Viva is not permitted, modeling this behavior in front of them may provoke needless challenges. Of course, absolutely no romantic activity of any kind is allowed between work team members and the young people at Agua Viva; this includes (1) inappropriate physical touch and (2) romantic or sexually suggestive communication whether verbal, written, through body language, or even through inappropriate eye contact.
- 4. Physical Contact:** Team members should be very cautious and discerning when making any physical contact with the children at Agua Viva. Male work team members should avoid hugging adolescent females from Agua Viva and female work team members should avoid hugging adolescent males from Agua Viva; the only possible exception would be very short "congratulatory" or "greeting" hugs. Regarding perceived disciplinary problems involving children or young people at Agua Viva, simply report your concern to an Agua Viva staff member; never administer any kind of discipline yourself.
- 5. Language:** Glorify God in what you say to the children and young people at Agua Viva. Obscene or sexually oriented language, whether in English or Spanish, is not permitted at any time.
- 6. Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco:** Alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco products are not allowed at Agua Viva.
- 7. Consequences:** Failure to follow these guidelines may result in a work team member being sent back home at his or her expense, depending on the offense. Any type of sexual or physical abuse will be treated as a violation of the law.

I have read and understand the above guidelines and agree to follow them during my visit to Agua Viva.

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name: _____