

## **YOU Adult Sponsor Heart Agreements.**

**Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please take the time read the following guidelines carefully before signing the heart agreement.

As Adult Sponsors, we are here to model the Unity Principles. This is the only opportunity many of our Y.O.U. teens get to witness the Unity Principles in action. Let us work together as a collaborative team to make this time with our Y.O.U. teens count in that regard. Remember that words have the power to contribute to connection or distance. May we create connections.

If an incident occurs, as sponsors we are called to respond rather than react. Please make a point to demonstrate, responsibly, how to handle all situations in a loving, calm, and thoughtful manner. May we make every effort together to find solutions that work for all concerned. If you feel the situation is above what you are comfortable handling and to have the situation handled accordingly, please check in with the Regional Consultant and/or head sponsors.

Our conversations should be beyond reproach. This is a spiritual retreat for our teens and adult leaders. May we create a nourishing and safe atmosphere for the spiritual growth of all. Adult sponsors are asked to practice the principles of nonviolent communication: empathy, collaboration, authenticity and freedom. The public presentation of our words and actions should never, be one of making a spectacle or speaking of another in a negative way, rather, we are here to empower one another and behold the Christ in all.

Our focus, as sponsors, is always on the welfare of the teens. We are gifted through our service to be the caregivers of our teens at all times. Parents have entrusted us to provide this service and we are bound by the sponsors code of ethics to always take this seriously. Attending retreat is a full-time responsibility, as opposed to a vacation. Adults are equally required to be present at all activities, just as the teens are. May we set an example for our teens by showing up timely and according to the schedule. In addition, we will all be charged with the responsibility for holding the space for the safety of the teens during free time. You will be asked to take responsibility for at least one post during free time. If you feel the need to nap or work on personal business after (or before) your post is completed, please let the Regional Consultant know your whereabouts in case of an emergency. We need all eyes and ears to keep everyone safe and in bounds.

Adults are bound by the same boundaries as the teens. Sponsors are asked not to use electronic devices except during designated times. This includes the taking of photos, remembering that no photos should be posted on social media without the consent of those involved. Also, adults are to remain on the grounds and inside the boundaries as indicated on the map in your welcome packet. If you have an emergency that requires a

trip off grounds you MUST check in with the Regional Consultant for permission beforehand. If you have a health emergency, please check in with the Wellness Team.

If a teen, or teens, ask to sit out during any activity for whatever reason, it is necessary to channel their request through the Regional Consultant. It is absolutely necessary for the regional team to know the whereabouts of every teen at all times during retreat. It is inappropriate for a sponsor to give teens permission to skip any event without first reaching out to the Regional Consultant.

If you are a sponsor in Family Group, please keep your comments to a minimum to give as much time to the teens as possible. It is not our job to impart our vast wisdom to the teens during Family Group, but it is our job to keep our comments brief so that the teens have as much time to talk as possible.

**I choose to attend the above listed SE Unity Youth Ministry Event of my own free will. I have read the above guidelines and commit to the following heart agreements to ensure a safe and deeply spiritual experience for all participants:**

1. I have read and understand both the teen and sponsor heart agreements for this event and will support the teens and my peers to maintain their agreements.
2. I agree to represent my highest self and to respect others, including teens, adults, camp-staff, camp guests and the regional consultant; and to create through my words and actions a loving, sacred and harassment-free environment.
4. I agree to attend and remain at all required activities at the scheduled time. I will remain within the boundaries and designated areas at all times. If personal time away from the event is necessary, I will consult with the Regional Consultant prior to the event and prior to leaving so that my absence is noted, and service is covered by other adults.
5. I agree to give my loving support, cooperation, and attention to speakers and facilitators, and to lovingly support teen participants in doing the same.
6. I agree to work in harmony with the Regional Consultant, Head Sponsors and Y.O.U. teen leaders, and understand I am attending as an adult willing to lovingly correct youth if they exhibit behavior outside the agreements or that is dangerous or disrespectful to themselves or others. I will attempt to resolve issues on the spot and will seek assistance from the Regional Consultant when necessary.
7. I agree to dress in a manner that is not disrespectful of anyone surrounding me or would promote illegal activity at any time. We are on sacred ground when entering any Y.O.U. event and it should be treated as such. The following is a list of inappropriate attire while participating in Y.O.U. activities. I agree, if asked by the SE Regional Consultant, to change my clothing.

- See-through clothing.
- Form - fitting clothing such as spandex, except with another layer of clothing, which meets the dress code.
- Bare midriff/crop tops.
- Shorts and/or skirts not long enough to cover the behind.
- Tank tops or muscle shirts with large arm holes.
- Clothing that reveals undergarments.
- Low cut shirts that are revealing in nature.
- Any t-shirt or other articles of clothing with pictures and/or language that is deemed inappropriate, negative or less than God-like in nature.

8. I will respect the teens' expectation of confidentiality\* when sharing. However, I will not take on the responsibility for keeping a secret that should be shared with the Regional Consultant . I will ensure the teens understand my obligation to report any threat of physical harm to oneself or others. I will discuss any suspicion of abuse or any suicidal tendencies immediately with the Regional Consultant.

**\*Confidentiality: Anything said in the group stays in the group. The exception to this is:**

- **Anything said that could affect the safety or welfare of that person or others.**
- **Which would encompass one of the (3) H's; being hurt, hurting themselves, or hurting others.**

**In this case the Facilitator or sponsor is obligated to report this directly to the Consultant.**

9. I agree to take part in Y.O.U. activities with a clear mind and heart by abstaining from the use of alcohol, tobacco, e-cigarettes and juuls and drugs not prescribed to me by my doctor. I agree to refrain from any conversation encouraging the use of these substances. I agree not to drink energy drinks of any kind during any Y.O.U. function. If illegal drugs are brought to Rally or any Y.O.U. event, the drugs will be confiscated, and the police will be called.

10. I agree to be responsible for taking prescription medication as prescribed by my physician and stated on the original medication bottle. As sponsor I will collect "All" prescription drugs(with the exception of life saving meds.; epi-pen or inhaler. Birth control is another exception) prior to leaving the parking lot at my church or designated spot, from said parent/guardian in charge of teen. Upon arriving at any Y.O.U. event, I agree to report to wellness with my Y.O.U. teen(s) and give all prescribed medications (including my own) to the on-sight nurse and agree to take my prescribed medications at the time each is directed. Medications must be in the original bottles with the dosage for only the time of the trip.

11. In accordance with agreements to have the purest experience, I agree to refrain from the use of electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, electronic games etc.), during lessons or other times as designated by leadership. In addition, I agree to leave knives/weapons at home.

12. I agree to look for the highest good in all people and situations and for ways I can both give and receive to make this event a special and unique experience for myself and others.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_