

## **Eastern Region Teen Ministry Policies**

Updated: February 13, 2014

### **AGE POLICY FOR UNITEENS AND YOU**

**Uniteens:** In order to attend a regional Uniteen retreat, camp or event, Uniteens must be in grades 6, 7, 8 or equivalent, with a minimum age of 11 and a maximum age of 14.

**YOU:** In order to attend a regional YOU Rally, Retreat, Training or event, YOUers must be in grades 9, 10, 11, 12 or equivalent, with a maximum age of 19; or if no longer in high school, a maximum age of 18.

### **DRIVERS TO EVENTS**

For the safety of our youth and in accord with guidelines of Unity Worldwide Ministries; drivers to regional youth events must be at least 25 years of age with a valid driver's license.

### **ADULT CHAPERONS AT YOUTH EVENTS: GENDER POLICY**

Any ministry sending a child or teen to any regional youth event is required to also send an approved adult chaperon of the same gender as the child or teen attending. To meet this requirement, a ministry may arrange for a surrogate chaperon from another ministry to serve as chaperon for one or more of their children or teens with consent and approval of the surrogate chaperon, the chaperon's ministry and the Regional Youth Consultant.

### **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS**

The Eastern Region and the Unity Worldwide Ministries strongly recommend that all adults working with minors at your church have a background check completed.

All adults who will be attending a regional event where children or youth are present are required to obtain a National Background Screening. A copy of the results of the Background screen must be provided to the Youth Consultant prior to the adult attending the event. Background screens must be updated every three years.

### **YOU CANDIDATES FOR REGIONAL OFFICE**

All Officer Candidates will complete and submit an application to run for office to the regional Youth Consultant prior to the annual meeting by a date and in a form to be determined by the Regional Youth Consultant. Forms and due dates will be published on the regional website at least 60 days prior to the election.

Officer candidates must have written consent and approval for their candidacy from their ministry, sponsor and a parent or guardian.

## **REGIONAL OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS**

A teen who is pregnant or a teen parent will not be eligible to hold regional YOU office or other regional leadership position.

As regional Spiritual Leaders, Regional Officers agree to role model Unity Truth principles in all of their words and actions including all online communications, using only appropriate, respectful language and refraining from the use of all profanity, put downs to any person or group or any other offensive or inappropriate language that would reflect negatively on Unity Worldwide Ministries, the region or regional YOU.

## **EXCEPTIONS**

Any exceptions to regional teen ministry policies must be approved by the Regional Youth Consultant in consultation with the Board YFM Team.