



SAFE Training

Prioritizing Youth Safety with Research-Based Mentor Screening Practices

National Research shows that 1 in 4 girls is sexually abused as a child. For boys, 1 in 6 sexually abused during their childhood. These numbers highlight the need for everyone, especially programs serving youth, to be aware of the signs of child abuse and to take steps designed to prevent it before it occurs. Through social media many perpetrators target programs such as TeamMates because they provide access to vulnerable young people. Perpetrators are diverse in age, socio-economic background, education level, and ethnic heritage and cannot be identified using stereotypes.

One of TeamMates core values is safety and we make every effort to protect everyone involved in our program – particularly our youth. TeamMates Quality Control, Jaci McKeever, is a certified SAFE trainer and makes that training available to all TeamMates chapters. The purpose of the training is to help program coordinators, school staff members, and others in the community learn to identify the signs of child abuse or inappropriate relationships in order to promote the safety of all young people in our schools.

A training in your area would focus on:

1. National Efforts: The latest research on characteristics, red flags, and warning signs you should be looking for throughout a mentoring relationship.
2. Local Efforts: The best practices for your community and the holistic approach you can take to reduce risk and keep your mentors and mentees safe.
3. Emergency Procedures: The steps you should take if an incident occurs in your community to focus on youth safety, providing support for all parties, and how to continue to provide mentoring for other youth in light of the incident.

For more information about SAFE training or to schedule a training in your area, please contact:

Jaci McKeever- Certified SAFE Trainer

402-390-8326

jmckeever@teammates.org