

Title: Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect Training for Camp Counselors

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Abstract: Ohio 4-H Camping Programs use 14-18 year old youth as camp counselors in Ohio 4-H day and overnight camping programs. Camp is the #1 highest risk activity Ohio 4-H offers. There is endless opportunity for injury to a person, property, and/or reputation to yourself, your program, and to The Ohio State University. It's a gamble 4-H professionals will continue to take because they watch counselors and campers grow and learn exponentially right before their eyes at camp year after year. We aren't going to stop going to camp. Therefore, the challenge becomes assessing our areas of greatest liability and responding by providing quality training to those who are directly and indirectly responsible for handling these matters. Child abuse training has been identified as an imperative part of camp counselor training. This training seeks to provide Ohio 4-H camp counselors with both the content and context for child abuse prevention and reporting at camp. The learning objectives of this curriculum are:

1. Provide constitutional and operational definitions of types of abuse.
2. Offer examples of what each type of abuse might look like in a camp setting.
3. Outline the expectations for reporting in a camp setting.
4. Deliver applied-learning opportunities for real-world camp scenarios.

Target Audience: This curriculum package seeks to be used by county 4-H professionals to provide child abuse training and activities tailored specifically for use with camp staff and camp counselors. The curriculum was written for teenage learners that have undergone extensive camp counselor training.

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