



# Risk Management *Tips*

## Steps to Address Supervision and Abuse

According to Season of Hope – A Risk Management Guide for Youth-serving Nonprofits, by John C. Patterson and Barbara B. Oliver, staff training and supervision are important risk control measures for child maltreatment. Minimum training for staff working with children should include signs of child abuse and suspicious or inappropriate behavior, your organization's policies regarding the care and supervision of children in its programs, proper response when there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is at risk of harm, and development characteristics for children being served by the organization.



Always keep parents and guardians well informed. Outline acceptable behaviors and your discipline policy. Maintain appropriate supervision ratios, and directly supervise children by sight and sound at all times. Never leave a young child with an older child, and avoid situations that allow one-on-one interactions, such as child-to-child and adult-to-child, regardless of that adult's responsibility at your organization.

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If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at [safety1st@markelcorp.com](mailto:safety1st@markelcorp.com).