

From: [Florida Conference](#)
To:
Date: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 12:30:42 PM



MEMORANDUM TO: All Florida Annual Conference churches
and affiliated ministries
FROM: The Department for Ministry Protection
RE: Child/Youth Protection Policy Template
2018 Update

Since 1996, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church has required that each local church congregation have a child/youth protection policy (CYPP).

The Florida Conference has been a pioneering force in implementing this mandate and establishing a template for local church use that would highlight our core value of safety and security; acknowledging that all people, especially children, are important to God.

A strong, broad-base policy template was developed and then updated in 2009. Since that time, we have collected questions, concerns and suggestions from many sources around the Conference.

Using this valuable input and guided by Scripture, the Book of Discipline and civil law, we offer this latest update to the CYPP Template. Changes to the 2009 template appear in the update in red. ([Click here](#) for the 2018 document.) The template will be available in Spanish and Creole by 12-01-18 and will be posted on the Ministry Protection web pages of the Conference website.

Local churches and conference-affiliated ministries should use this template to update their own policies by **April 30, 2019**. Copies of updated church policy Adoption Agreements (page 13 of the template) are to be sent to the church's District Office by that date.

SPECIAL NOTE: Florida Statute 943.053 now mandates a minimum fee per name submitted for a Florida Criminal History Database check; that fee is \$24.00. Additional fees may apply to perform a national criminal background screening; however, access to the Sexual Offender Registry remains free.

Should you have questions on the template update, please feel free to contact us at ministryprotection@flumc.org.

Your Partners in His Service,

The Department for Ministry Protection

Distribution: all churches, districts, AA's, pastors of local churches (to include assistant/associate pastors, youth pastors), trustees, business administrators, church secretaries, financial administrators, camps & retreats, campus ministries, The Foundation, The Children's Home, Branches, Halifax Urban Ministries, Suncoast Ministries (formerly United Methodist Cooperative Ministries), Methodist Center employees

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