

New Choristers Only

Please return this form by July 1, 2010.

(All parents must sign this form whether you volunteer to chaperone or not.)

CHORISTERS' SAFETY POLICY AND PROCEDURES

For the protection of our children and persons who work with them, the Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas ("CCGD") hereby adopts the following policies and procedures intended to provide a safe environment, free of sexual, physical and/or emotional abuse.

CCGD will seek the most qualified applicants, volunteer or paid, for positions involving the supervision of our choristers. All applicants will be screened by the procedures listed below. Applicants found to have indicators of risk for possible child mistreatment will be ineligible for a position, whether volunteer or paid staff.

All paid staff and volunteers for any position involving direct interaction with the choristers (i.e., chaperones, rehearsal monitors, etc.) will complete an application form. The completed form will be forwarded to the Administrative Director. The form will include:

- Applicant's name with identity confirmed by driver's license or other photographic identification. *(A copy of the photographic identification must be attached to the application);*
- Current address and telephone number;
- Other addresses for the last five (5) years;
- Position applying/volunteering for;
- Permission allowing CCGD to conduct a criminal background check to be performed by a professional agency;
- Written agreement to follow the CCGD "Choristers' Safety Policy and Procedures."

CCGD will seek to create a safe environment in which opportunities for abuse are minimized by providing proper supervision by paid staff and volunteers, and by offering education and training to paid staff and volunteers on the subject of protecting children from abuse situations.

There must be at least one (1) adult chaperone/monitor for every 15 choristers at all off-site events. For on-site events and rehearsals, a minimum of one (1) adult chaperone/monitor for every 25 choristers will be required. In addition to the rehearsal/staging area, chaperones shall be assigned to monitor the venue entry points as well as the corridors outside of the rehearsal/staging area. Chaperones and monitors should avoid being placed in a position of being in a one-on-one situation with a chorister.

A release procedure that requires a chorister to be picked up only by their respective parent or guardian, unless written authorization and release of liability is on file from the parent or guardian to the contrary shall be enforced.

CCGD will report all alleged or suspected incidences of child abuse in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The response by CCGD to a reported incident of alleged or suspected child abuse will be with an effort to protect the child and any individuals involved in the incident. It is NOT the policy of CCGD to prove whether the alleged or suspected abuse has or has not occurred, as this will be the responsibility of the proper legal authorities.

I have read and understand the above information.

Parent (print name)

Parent Signature

Date