**Diocese of Tucson**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

**for**

**YOUTH WORKING WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN**

**You are about to begin what will hopefully be a lifelong commitment to working for or volunteering for the Catholic Church. It is a privilege to help carry on the mission of Jesus Christ, one that no one should take lightly. Moreover, as a minor yourself, it is important you follow certain rules and guidelines, both for your protection and for the protection of those to whom you minister. The parish takes the issue of misconduct very seriously. Certainly any instance of your misconduct will be evaluated carefully, and you are urged to report any instances of misconduct that you see to the adult in charge of your area of service.**

 **GENERAL CONDUCT FOR YOUTH VOLUNTEERS/WORKERS**

1. **You must never be isolated with a younger child in your care.**
2. **You must never transport a younger child in your care.**
3. **When you are on an outing with younger children in your care there must be two adults present at all times.**
4. **You are not to access locker rooms, shower rooms and dressing rooms where younger children in your care are present.**
5. **You are not to accompany a younger child in your care into a restroom.**
6. **You must never use inappropriate language when working with younger children.**
7. **You must never be involved with the illegal possession and/or illegal use of drugs and/or alcohol.**
8. **You must never use physical force or demeaning language in disciplining younger children in your care.**
9. **You must never take advantage of a younger child in your care.**
10. **You have a position of responsibility within your parish and you should live up to the expectations of trust that have been placed in you.**
11. **You must be aware of diocesan guidelines on reporting child abuse and follow them without exception.**

**The parish is grateful for the service you provide and wants to help you provide that service in a manner that is safe for you and for the children you serve. Whenever you have questions or whenever you are uncertain about what is required, ask the adults with whom you work.**

**Diocese of Tucson**

**Commitment to the Code of Conduct for**

**Youth Working with Younger Children**

I promise to follow faithfully the rules and guidelines in the *Diocese of Tucson Code of Conduct for Youth Working with Younger Children*, as adopted by the parish, as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth of our parish and/or diocese.

I understand that any action inconsistent with the *Diocese of Tucson Code of Conduct for Youth Working with Younger Children* or any failure to take action mandated by the Code may result in my removal from my position of working with minors.

I further understand that I will, as a condition of continuing in my position, be required to participate in education and training provided by the parish Compliance Officer.

**Printed Name of Youth Volunteer or Worker**

**Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone No.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature of Youth Volunteer or Worker**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Today’s Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Minor’s Date of Birth\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

We are the parents/legal guardians of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (“Youth”). We have received and support the *Diocese of Tucson Code of Conduct for Youth Working with Younger Children* and we have reviewed it with our youth. We understand that the parish has a responsibility to provide a safe environment for all its young people and we know of nothing in our youth’s background that would make him/her unsuitable to work with children or youth.

**Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian**

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**Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian**

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**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Please direct any questions to Dr. Rosemary Celaya-Alston, Director of the Office of Child, Adolescent and Adult Protection of the Diocese of Tucson. (520) 792-3410.*

*Return this form to your parish’s Compliance Officer.*