

**ROC SALT Mission Center**  
**Covenant for Safety and Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

The Presbytery of Genesee Valley (PGV) and the ROC SALT Mission Center take seriously their commitment to protect the physical and emotional health and well-being of all those with whom we work, especially children and vulnerable adults. To that end, we follow the PGV Child Safety Policy (which can be found here – <https://pbygenval.org/administration/documents-forms/child-youth-safety-policy/>) along with the following covenant guidelines. We expect all mission participants to abide by these guidelines as well. After reviewing the policy online, please sign and return the relevant pages along with the covenant below.

Adult-Child ratio

Youth/adult ratios shall not exceed 4:1 for middle school age children or 5:1 for high school age children, except during worship or experiential learning when the ratio may rise to 15:1.

No volunteer under 18 shall work with minor children without the supervision of an adult over the age of 21.

Youth assistants must be five years older than any child they are assisting at a partner site or ROC SALT mission event.

Leaders/supervisors under the age of 21 shall not lead groups that contain youth who are five years or less their junior.

A single youth and a single adult, or two youths, shall not meet privately except in a room with a clearly visible sight line to others.

Bathroom and other potentially isolated locations

Children and adults shall use shower and toilet facilities at different times or in different locations.

Whenever possible, children shall enter with at least two others.

Children shall not enter bathrooms unsupervised or alone.

Leaders shall check bathrooms and other isolated locations frequently and at random times.

Sleeping

ROC SALT does not designate specific areas for particular age or gender identities. Leaders can decide how they would like to use the available space, provided a single adult and child or two children are not sleeping in an area alone. If more than one group will be staying at ROC SALT at the same time, contact information for each group will be shared with all leaders so that they may decide together how they would like to share the space.

Transportation

Any adult who will be driving unrelated children shall provide a copy of their license, registration and proof of insurance.

All drivers shall observe safe driving practices including abiding by all posted speed limits, and refraining from smoking or using a phone.

Drivers must drive at least two children or another adult and one child, unless transporting someone under emergency circumstances with the authorization of a supervisor.

Drivers of vans holding 16 or more passengers shall hold a valid Commercial Driver License. (CDL).

All passengers shall use seatbelts and remain seated.

In larger vehicles, adult leaders must distribute themselves so that they can supervise the children in their care.

Whenever setting out, stopping at a rest area, or returning, counts shall be taken to ensure that all children are present. Passengers must complete each journey in the same vehicle to avoid confusion.

### Free time Activities

Activities taking place during free time do not fall under the supervision of the ROC SALT mission leaders. Participants agree to work with the ROC SALT staff and volunteers to identify those times when they will be solely responsible for their youth and to ensure that appropriate measures have been taken. During these free times, the adult leaders of each group agree to abide by the rules already agreed to for participants at ROC SALT.

### Background Checks

All adults working with children must have completed a background check within the past three years. We rely on our partners to keep those records but ask that you include a list of your adult participants and the dates and outcomes of their background checks. If you would like ROC SALT Mission to conduct these on your behalf, it can do so at cost – usually \$8 - \$16.

### Drugs and Alcohol

We are a non-smoking mission. Smoking is prohibited on the property, at all work sites and in the presence of any youth. Alcohol and drugs are also prohibited.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that I have received and reviewed the PGV child safety policy and the ROC SALT covenant guidelines.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_