

NEWSLETTER



/ Hello WVU Youth Programs

We welcome you to our first bimonthly newsletter! You'll find that it is filled with educational information, helpful hints and tips, events, news, documentaries and highlights from local, state and national organizations who are committed to keeping children safe.

Join us at our next quarterly meeting on September 16, 2020 from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. This is an opportunity for those who run youth programs to connect with others, collaborate and coordinate efforts. If you are interested in joining this group, email us at childrenoncampus@mail.wvu.edu.

/ Rewind, Refocus and Reimagine

Stranger danger? We've all heard of it! In most recent campaigns it was a catchy, widespread method of teaching children that all strangers were dangerous and could potentially harm them while indicating everyone you knew was safe. Research now shows that "the greatest risk to children doesn't come from strangers

but from friends and family" (Darkness to Light).

Protecting children on campus is not typically the first thing you think of when thinking about colleges and universities; however, it's become increasingly important over the last ten (10) years. During that time colleges and universities around the country were making national headlines on developing cases of child sexual abuse and child pornography – leaving other institution wondering what youth protection measures they had implemented.



Prevention efforts have been developed over the years that emphasize preventing child abuse and neglect including child sexual

Register Now!

The WV 2020 Center for Children's Justice Virtual Handle With Care Conference registration is now open. Learn more and register at www.handlewithcarewv.org.

Leading the Way and Starting the Conversation

When should youth programs consider reopening? We have guidance from the CDC and will share it at our next quarterly meeting. Join us!

Featured Netflix Documentary: Athlete A

This documentary focuses on the gymnast who survived USA Gymnastic doctor Larry Nassar's abuse and the reporters who exposed USAG's toxic culture.

sexual abuse and exploitation. West Virginia University including WVU Potomac State and WVU Institute of Technology has been committed to serving youth for decades. Two thousand and eight (2008) marks the first approved Board of Governors Policy regarding “Employment of Minors.” Later in 2014, Policy 49 was updated and re-titled “Children on Campus,” with the most recent and significant changes in 2018 where Policy 49 was changed to Board of Governors Governance Rule 1.7: Rule on Child Protection. Imagine a community where child abuse, neglect, child sexual abuse and exploitation did not exist.

/ Who We Are

We exist to make children safer while participating in WVU programs. We also want to help WVU community members who are administering those programs to comply with relevant laws and WVU policy.



/ What We Do

To do this, we provide training, educational resources, and coordinate efforts across the University to establish guidelines and best practices that promote the safety of youth engaged in WVU programs, activities, events and research. Our services are guided by nationally recognized best practices, federal and state laws and regulations found within West Virginia University.



/ Why It Matters

Each year, thousands of children interact with WVU through a variety of programs and events both on and off campus, so West Virginia University’s leadership is committed to ensuring that youth who engage with the university are protected from harm. West Virginia University welcomes youth and their families as members of the University community with the expectation that everyone will have a safe, enriching and inclusive experience.

What is HEPNet?

The Higher Education Protection Network (HEPNet) is an international association linking together those that seek to advance the interactions of higher education institutions with children and youth.

They serve as a coordinated voice promoting good practices for protecting vulnerable populations and providing programming and resources appropriate to their needs.

Learn more at www.higheredprotection.org/.

Disability Accommodations

Individuals that require disability-related accommodations during the vetting process may contact Jill Hess, ADA Coordinator.

/ Jill.Hess@mail.wvu.edu
/ 304-293-6692

***Know the facts,
use your resources
and be the solution!***

