

## **PCYI GUIDELINES FOR MINOR TEENS WHO VOLUNTEER WITH CHILDREN**

- A. CODE OF CONDUCT:** Teens under the age of 18 (minors) who volunteer with children should read and sign the Code of Conduct for volunteers.
  
- B. BACKGROUND EVALUATION:** Minor teens who volunteer with children should have two written references on file (including at least one reference from a school leader)
  
- C. VIRTUS SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING:** It is recommended that minor teens who volunteer with children attend a VIRTUS session, but attendance is not required. If minor teens who volunteer with children do not attend a VIRTUS session, those teens must always have another person who attended a VIRTUS session present when they are working with children.

ALL teens under 18 who attend a VIRTUS session must follow the guidelines below:

1. Minor teens who attend a VIRTUS session should be at least 16 years old.
2. All minor teens who attend a VIRTUS session must have a signed parental release form. Teens should also preferably attend the VIRTUS session with a parent. Parishes or schools should use their standard release form for this parental release. If you do not have a release form, please contact the PCYI office. Minor teens should not attend a VIRTUS session without a signed parental release form.
3. Minor teens in attendance should meet with their supervisor following the VIRTUS session to discuss what was covered in the session.

If you anticipate teens under the age of 18 from your location will be attending a VIRTUS session, please send us a list of the teens who have permission to attend and we will pass this along to the facilitator facilitating the session.

The VIRTUS session contains sensitive material and we want to make sure we are respecting our parents' right to decide what is appropriate for their children.

Please contact the PCYI office at [pcyi@archspm.org](mailto:pcyi@archspm.org) if you have any questions about these guidelines.