



Rio Texas Conference Disaster Response Ministry Child Youth & Vulnerable Adult Safety Policy Briefing Sheet

It is recommended that ALL ERT Members complete the full *Safe Gatherings* Training and are become *Trusted* compliant, thereby helping to ensure the safety of vulnerable members of the population. This document is designed to assist Early Response Team (ERT) Team Leaders to inform and educate those team members who have not completed the training to help ensure that they understand best practices.

This sheet should be used by someone currently *Trusted* compliant (not necessarily the Team Leader) to cover the important aspects of the policy.

- Purpose – Protect Children, youth and vulnerable adults
- Also protect team members from the perception of wrongdoing
- Definition of “Vulnerable Adult” – Disaster Survivors
- Identification of those on the team who are currently trained and compliant
- Discussion of ratios and who can fulfill them
- Rule of Three - The presence of two unrelated “Trusted” compliant team members at all ministry events involving survivors.
- Potential areas of concern (as they relate to ERTs)
 - o Use buddy system in the home
 - o Never alone with a survivor or unaccompanied child
 - o Transporting survivors
 - o Team Housing
 - Preschool in church?
 - Other teams in church? (Especially youth)
 - Church programs in the evening
- If you are interested in becoming Trusted, please visit riotexas.org/safesteps for more information about this ministry certification.
- The full Disaster Response Ministry Child, Youth and Vulnerable Adults Policy can be found at riotexasresponse.org