PREVENTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IN YOUTH SERVING ORGANIZATIONS

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed six key components for preventing child sexual abuse within youth serving organizations. THE SIX COMPONENTS ARE:

**COMPONENT 1:** Screening and Selecting Employees and Volunteers
The goal of this component is to select the best possible people for staff and volunteer positions and to screen out individuals who have sexually abused youth or at risk to abuse.

**COMPONENT 2:** Guidelines on Interactions Between Individuals
The goal of this component is to ensure the safety of youth in their interactions with employees, volunteers and with each other.

**COMPONENT 3:** Monitoring Behavior
The goal of this component is to prevent, recognize, and respond to inappropriate behaviors and to reinforce appropriate behaviors.

**COMPONENT 4:** Ensuring Safe Environment
The goal of this component is to keep youth from unsafe physical environments and interpersonal situations in which they are at increased risk for sexual abuse.

**COMPONENT 5:** Responding to Inappropriate Behavior, Breaches in Policy, and Allegations and Suspicions of Child Sexual Abuse
The goal of this component is to respond quickly and appropriately to (1) inappropriate or harmful behavior, (2) infractions of child sexual abuse prevention policies and (3) evidence or allegations of child sexual abuse.

**COMPONENT 6:** Training About Sexual Abuse Prevention
The goal of this component is to give people information and skills to help them prevent and respond to child sexual abuse.

A2A provides training for youth serving organizations on enhancing their policies and procedures to protect children in their programs. Go to www.a2awisconsin.org for more information.