

Cheyney University Policy SE-2011-6007

Policy on Reporting Allegations of Sexual Abuse/Assault of Minor Children

Approved by: Social Equity Council/ President's Cabinet

History: Drafted -- 11-11-2011

Related Policies: n/a

Additional References: n/a

I. Purpose

To ensure the fulfillment of our moral obligation to protect minor children as vulnerable members of society and the obligation that is mandated by Pennsylvania law. Specifically this policy addresses the abuse of minor children

II. Definition

Abuse of a minor child includes serious endangerment of a child's physical or mental health due to injury by act or omission, including acts of sexual abuse includes contacts or interactions between a child and an adult when the child is being used as an object of sexual gratification for the adult. A child is abused whether or not this activity involves explicit force, whether or not it involves genital or physical contact, whether or not it is initiated by the child, and whether or not there is discernible harmful outcome.

III. Procedures

Pennsylvania law requires anyone who has reason to believe that a child has been abused or neglected to report the abuse or neglect. In order to meet the reporting obligation as well as to provide appropriate protection to children, this policy applies to abuse that allegedly occurs on our campus, on property owned or leased by the University, or while members of the faculty, staff or student body are participating in a University connected activity off campus.

- A. A minor and/or his or her parents or guardians of anyone external to the University who has knowledge about the abuse of a minor which occurred on University property or which involved a University employee or student during the course of a University connected activity off campus, is urged to report the alleged abuse to the Director, Dean or Vice President in charge of the program in which the minor is involved or to anyone else at the University with whom the reporting person feels comfortable speaking. University employees or students who receive such reports should proceed as outlined in paragraphs B, C, D.



- B. A University employee who has reason to believe that a minor has been abused on our campus, on property owned or leased by the University, or while members of the faculty, staff or student body are participating in a University connected activity off campus or who has received a report of such alleged abuse must report this information to either 1) his or her supervisor or the Director, Dean or Vice President in charge of his or her department; or 2) if the report involves another employee, the direct supervisor of the alleged abuser of the Director, Dean or Vice President in charge of the alleged abuser's department: or 3) if the report involves a student, to the Vice President for Student Affairs.
- C. A University student who has reason to believe that a minor has been abused on our campus, on property owned or leased by the University, or while members of the faculty, staff or student body are participating in a University connected activity off campus or who has received a report of such alleged abuse must report this information to either 1) his or her Vice President for Student Affairs or 2) if the report involves an employee, the direct supervisor of the alleged abuser or the Director, Dean or Vice President in charge of the alleged abuser's department.
- D. In all situations, those who receive a report of abuse must immediately report the allegation to the Vice President.

Procedures for Handling Allegations of Child Abuse

In the event that the Vice President's Office receives a report of alleged abuse of a minor by a member of the University staff, faculty or student body, the following action shall be taken:

If the abuse happened on campus or on property owned or leased by the University or off campus while a member of the University staff, faculty or student body was participating in a University connected activity, the Vice President shall:

- If the parents or guardians of the victim have not been involved in the reporting and are not the alleged abusers, notify the parents of guardians of the minor involved.
- If the alleged abuser is a faculty member, notify the Provost of the allegations
- If the alleged abuser or the victim is a student, notify the Vice President of Student Affairs.
- If the alleged abuser or the victim is a student, notify the Vice President of Student Affairs.
- If the alleged abuser is a staff member, notify the Vice President for Finance and Administration
- Notify the Director of Public Safety at such time as the Vice President receives an allegation of abuse as defined by the University's Policy.