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**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY TEMPLATE**

**Organization: Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development**

**Section 1: About the Organization:**

**Section 2: Purpose of the Policy**

**Section 3: Understanding Child Protection Issues**

**Child Protection: We mean it.**

* We know. Talking about child protection is not fun. But it is 100% necessary, and something we take extremely seriously at our organization.
* Helping children break the cycle of poverty is more than providing health care and education. It is about working toward the complete well-being of each and every child — and that means keeping them safe.

**Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development operates off these five basic Guiding Principles of Child Protection:**

* Having zero-tolerance for child abuse.
* Protecting children’s rights and their best interests.
* Placing the child as the first priority when dealing with all identified or suspected cases of child abuse.
* Empowering and educating children on their rights, personal safety and steps, they can take, if there is a problem.
* Integrating child protection into all aspects of our organizational strategy, structures and work practices.

**Child Protection Policy of Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development**

Children International’s Child Protection Policy is made up of several components, all with the goal of keeping children and youth safe. It includes agency-specific child protection protocols, guidelines for reporting incidents, steps for preventing abuse, training for staff and volunteers, the rules we follow for using information in print and web materials and safety measures for sponsor-beneficiary interactions.

**Child Protection Protocols**

Each field office is required to have its own child protection protocols based on overarching Child Protection Policies and Guiding Principles. These protocols include local laws on child abuse, procedures that are required by local law, a list of local authorities to whom child abuse cases are reported, as well as a list of partner organizations to contact that can provide the appropriate support services for victims.

**Reporting Incidents**

For all reported child-abuse incidents, Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development requires that the child’s best interest be the first priority. In addition, all incidents must be dealt with promptly, and they must be handled in a confidential manner that does not harm the victim or the person reporting the abuse.

**Preventing Abuse**

Of course, preventing abuse entirely is the ultimate goal for any child-aid organization. Advocacy Initiative For Youth believes that we must do everything in our power to reduce cases of abuse as much as possible to help ensure children’s safety. The key to our strategy is education:

* Training children, staff and volunteers on how to identify and prevent child abuse.
* Giving children the opportunity to participate in programs that educate them on their rights, personal-safety techniques and steps, they can take in case of a problem.
* Encouraging and supporting children, staff and community members to report cases of abuse.
* Incorporating child protection information into other programs. In this way, we reach a broader audience and reemphasize the importance of protecting children.
* Allowing all children and teens the opportunity to participate in programs regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity or religion

**Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development Staff and Volunteer Training**

* All field staff and volunteers attend mandatory annual trainings on our Child Protection Policy and agency-specific child protection protocols.
* All new employees and volunteers are also trained and commit to following the policy and protocols.

**Advocacy Initiative For youth Development Communications**

As you read our web and print materials, you may have already noticed some of the measures we take to protect children. These include:

* Telling the truth of the story. This means never using manipulated or sensationalized text and/or images, and certainly not employing discriminatory or degrading language.
* Never using images of inappropriately clothed children.
* Not publicly disclosing a child’s last name, personal address or other information that could be used to locate a child within a country.
* Not publishing health information, unless the family or individual has given us written consent.
* Additionally, children, youth and individuals featured in our materials must consent (or their parents or guardians must consent) to us using their image or story prior to publication.

**Section 4**: **Policy Implementation Strategies**

**Leadership and Management**

Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development has proven that it protects the rights of the children. So it is mandatory for any member of Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development to undergo a weekly training for child protection and safeguarding training before he or she fully becomes a member. In addition, for those leaders and those who are in the management have to have full experience about children, how to protect them, and care and safeguard them.

**Staffing**

It is mandatory for Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development Management to give a full training of child protection and safeguarding for newly recruited staff in order to get along with the children. we handle in classes and protect their rights properly.

**Programing**

Our system mainly programs that we consider children a lot. In addition, we give them the first priority to safeguard and protect their rights because of we mostly deal with children who are under age and they need a lot of care and protection.

**Organization practices**

In Advocacy Initiative for Youth Development We care our students a lot in term of keeping their data, we have to get children from primary school officially, and anyone who needs to see our pupils and wants to visits us has to have a consent note that shows they get permition to meet our students.

**Trainings**

For the rule and regulation of Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development indoors that every member and staff has to attend any training concerning about the organization and has to transform the skill during activities. In addition to that, every staff or volunteer has to undergo a mandatory training before he or she starts working.

**Section 5: Accountability (M&E of the Policy Implementation)**

Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development does not compromise for any individual be it The management, staff and member who ever fails to protect children from harm, risk and misuse of child rights like taking photos and using for personal purpose will be accountable for that.

**Section 6: Reporting Procedures**

**What is safeguarding?**

* Safeguarding is set of policies, procedures and practices employed to actively prevent harm, abuse and distress.
* Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development adopts safeguarding practices within our organization to ensure our employees, volunteers, partners, and other representatives do not deliberately or unintentionally harm or abuse children or adults in affected communities.

**What is child safeguarding?**

* Child safeguarding is specifically focused on preventative actions to ensure that all children are protected from deliberate or unintentional acts that lead to the risk of or actual harm.
* The goal of child safeguarding is to create and maintain a safe culture that is child-focused and community-driven through sustained and meaningful engagement with children, their families, communities and all representatives.
* Advocacy Initiative For Youth Development, child safeguarding is a commitment to be a safe organization for children. The Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures along with the Code of Ethics are the foundation for safe programming standards, which reflect Rate’s commitment to first prevent harm and abuse, and then report and respond whenever concerns arise.

**What is the difference between child safegukarding and child protection?**

* Child safeguarding is about making Save the Children safe for children. Child safeguarding refers to a set of policies, procedures and practices employed to make a business safe for all children they work with.
* Child protection is about making the world safe for children. It refers to actions done to protect specific children from concerns of risk or harm.
* At Advocacy Initiative for Youth Development the Children, it is our thematic or programmatic area of work aimed at protecting children from all forms of abuse and exploitation in all areas we operate. Child Protection responses are macro-level in scale and involve holistic approaches to meet the social and legal protection needs of children and their families within vulnerable communities.

**Section 7: Signed and approved by**

This child protection policy and safeguarding has singed and approved by the following leaders

Name: Ebengo Honore Alfan Name: Name: Mohamud Abdullahi

Position Ceo/Founder Position: Position Head Department

Signature: Signature Signature

**Section 8: Update Versions**

Child protection and safeguarding policy of Advocacy Initiative for youth Development will be updated by every end of year in order to have a clear policy, which can keep on our procedures the best.

**Section 9: Appendix**

**Personal Statement of Commitment**

This is a section to ensure every member signs their commitment to the policy and its implementation.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and understood the

Standards and guidelines outlined in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Advocacy Initiative for Youth Development) Child Protection Policy. I agree with the principles contained therein and accept the importance of safeguarding the rights of the child, restoring dignified living and creation of a conducive environment, the policies and procedures and practices contained within this document while working with or associated with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Advocacy Initiative for Youth Development).

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date           \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_