



# Kids Ministry Mandated Reporter Policy

## Purpose:

Eagle Brook Church volunteers and staff may come into contact with kids or vulnerable adults who have experienced physical, emotional or sexual abuse, neglect or maltreatment. This policy is provided to assist our volunteers and staff as they take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of our youngest attenders.

## Who is a Mandated Reporter:

Minnesota State Law includes those employed as a member of the clergy and received the information while engaged in ministerial duties as mandated reporters. Meaning, any pastor on staff and other staff members in Kids and/or Student Ministries are mandated reporters. Any person serving in a volunteer role is not a mandated reporter, however, Minnesota does encourage voluntary reporting.

## What to Look For:

Potential signs of physical, emotional or sexual abuse may include:

- Bruises, burns, welts and/or bite marks
- Signs of neglect – hunger, in need of bathing, etc.
- Excessive aggressiveness
- Poor self confidence
- Self-mutilation
- Fearful of going home

## What to Do

Report your concerns to an EBC staff member.

- 1) If you believe the kid/adult is in immediate danger and you do not believe there is time to speak with an EBC staff member, contact local law enforcement. Law enforcement is the only authority that can intervene on behalf of a kid without a court order.
- 2) If you do not perceive immediate danger, speak with an EBC staff member before you leave church. They will know the steps to take and will assist you with reporting to the appropriate county agency.
- 3) Do NOT contact or inform parent/guardian or anyone else about what was shared with us as this has the potential of putting the alleged victim in danger.