

## CHIME BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES

### Objective:

- To provide a safe environment for our children
- To be good stewards of the facilities entrusted to us
- To maintain CHIME's good reputation

### Expectations of Children:

1. Treat each other with kindness and respect.
2. Indoor voices: No shouting, yelling, name-calling, swearing or taking the Lord's name in vain.
3. Indoor feet: No running, jumping, climbing on or under tables anywhere in the building; no going on the stage.
4. Hands on your own body: No fighting, hitting, kicking or throwing things at anyone.
5. Outdoor activities outdoors: ball playing/throwing, tag, & other outdoor type games and activities should be done outdoors.
6. A child should go to an adult if there is difficulty between children.
7. Children of all ages are to obey any adult in the group.
8. All food and drink will be confined to eating area.
9. Each child is responsible to help with clean up.
10. Respect property and only go into designated areas.

### Expectation of Adults:

1. Treat each other and all children with kindness and respect.
2. Parents must supervise their children at all times.
3. When parents will not be in the same area as their children, parents are responsible to appoint another adult to supervise their children. This authority must be clearly communicated to their children, who are expected to respond appropriately to that adult appointed in authority over them. Parents are NOT allowed to drop off their children, or let them go into a general gathering area unless someone is clearly responsible for the supervision of their children.
4. Every adult has a responsibility to gently but firmly redirect a child doing something s/he shouldn't be doing.

Below is the behavior plan that CHIME members developed during the 2007 Nov. & Dec. support group meetings. It is based on the same model that the Catholic Church asks us to follow when we go to the sacrament of Reconciliation. First we admit what we did wrong and decide what we will do differently the next time. We are then asked to do a penance or "make amends" for our actions.

<b>Normal Kid Stuff behavior (age of reason)</b>	<b>Egregious Behavior</b>
Running	Swearing
Playing outdoor games indoors	Taking the name of the Lord in vain
Loud voices	Fighting, punching or kicking
Rough housing	Biting
Going on the stage & areas we aren't allowed	Physically hurting others intentionally
Leaving the hall	Bullying
Climbing under & on tables	Throwing things at another person
Not cleaning up after themselves	Deliberate defiant behavior
Walking around with food (not eating at the table)	Destruction of property
Name calling	Disappearing without permission

## Implementation

At the beginning of each gathering:

- The leader/coordinator of the event or his/her designate gathers the community & reviews the expectation for children and adults.
- It is important to stress to the adults that they are to supervise their own children and to help out with other children whose parent may not be around

When correction or redirection is needed (for children above the age of reason):

### Consequence for Normal Kid Stuff Behavior

1. ONE warning is given to the child, communicating specific behavior that is inappropriate and what the child needs to do differently.
2. If inappropriate behavior happens again, then the child is brought to his/her parent to sit with the parent in a chair or time-out area for a minimum of 5 minutes.
3. Once the time is up, the child must state to the parent why s/he was asked to sit for 5 minutes & what s/he will do differently when rejoining the group.
4. If the child is unable to admit what s/he did wrong another minute will be added and the question will be asked again. If the child still cannot admit what s/he did wrong, s/he must stay with the parent.
5. The parent should bring the child back to the adult helping to apologize.

### Consequence for Egregious Behavior

1. The child will be taken to his/her parent and stay for the remainder of the day.
2. The child will apologize to the supervising parent for the specific action. (not optional)
3. The child will make amends for his/her behavior; to be determined by his/her parent. (Some suggested ways for a child to make amends: Help clean up – Watch younger children – Help moms carry things to cars, write a letter of apology, etc.)
4. If the behavior occurs a second time, it is assumed that the environment is too difficult for the child and the child will need to leave the premises for the remainder of the day.
5. Any parent who observes a pattern of inappropriate behavior by a child should discuss it directly with the child's parent. If this is ineffective, that person should bring it to the event leader for discussion and determination of a course of action. The leader will keep a written log of all discussions. CHIME reserves the right to ask that a child not participate in an activity when it becomes apparent that it is too difficult for that child to maintain appropriate behavior.