

## CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING FOR SMART MISSIONS AND OTHER TEAMS

### **Safeguarding Children & Upholding Their Rights is a Biblical Mandate (ACC International)**

It flows out of a recognition of children's individual worth and claims to dignity, as well as the vulnerability that comes with their age and the evolving nature of their capabilities and independence. This results in a **mandate for adults to provide adequate care and extend protection to children in order to prevent them from being harmed, placed in situations which negatively affect their development, or denied their basic needs and rights.**

Jesus recognized that all children experience a degree of vulnerability and warns of the seriousness of taking advantage of children or harming them, saying that, 'But who so shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it would be better for him that a millstone were hung about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depths of the sea' Matthew 18:6 (KJV).

### **ORPHANNetwork's Commitment to Child Safety**

Many of the children residing in our six partner Child Protection Centers (Orphanages) and living in communities connected with or Local Church partners come from very hard places and have experienced physical, psychological and/or sexual abuse. This impacts their ability to develop their God-given talents and abilities.

ORPHANNetwork has partnered with LAMB International to train educators, social workers, psychologists and leaders to better understand and manage the impact of trauma on the lives of the children with whom they have temporary or ongoing responsibility.

### **Guidelines for Participants**

Participants should:

1. Treat children the same way you would want a stranger to treat your child or grandchild
2. Have fun and give lots of positive reinforcement to the children and their educators
3. Follow all house rules provided by ORPHANNetwork and the Child Protection Center
4. Allow children personal space
5. Be cognizant of favoritism and treat all children the same.

Participants should not:

1. Be alone with a child
2. Ask a child (or educator /staff/parent) about his/her past history
3. Participate in hugging/inappropriate caresses
4. Allow children to sit on your lap
5. Show favoritism for one child over another

6. Enter personal space (bedrooms, bathrooms) unless invited by a caregiver
7. Wrestle or play physically with a child
8. Give gifts without the consent of educators/ directors
9. Provide cameras or cell phones
10. Upload photos of children to social networks this is a potential risk for child trafficking
11. Give money to children
12. Make any promises to children to come back, give them gifts, take them to the US....

Remember: Just because you were on a trip before, do not expect children to remember you – they meet a lot of people from many trips ORPHANetwork sponsored, as well as, other organizations/churches.