

# CHILD PROTECTION

The mission of Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly is to foster growth in God through Jesus Christ by sharing its unique living, learning, Christian environment.

**Church:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Church City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Conference(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

The mission of Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly is to foster growth in God through Jesus Christ by sharing its unique living, learning, Christian environment. Part of living up to that mission statement is doing our best to provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual safety of the youth who come to our conferences. While sponsors are entirely responsible for the supervision of their youth outside of small group times, in light of recent changes to state law, we have reviewed child protection policies for Mo-Ranch programs as they affect planning team members and conference leadership. All leadership and sponsors will be asked to read and sign this document.

I understand that Mo-Ranch has a zero-tolerance policy in regard to child abuse in any form (sexual, physical, emotional or any other type of abuse).

I will never be alone with a youth participant\*. In the event being alone with a youth is unavoidable or happens accidentally, I will immediately notify the conference director or Mo-Ranch Program Director of the situation that caused this to occur. I understand that by following the "Rule of Three" as printed on the "Youth Conference Sponsor Responsibilities" page found below I can avoid this situation.

I understand that being alone with a participant can and will be considered inappropriate and could jeopardize my ability to remain at the conference and/or to return in future years to a Mo-Ranch youth conference.

I will not have inappropriate relations with youth. This includes but is not limited to:

- Abuse in any form including bullying or hazing.
- Inappropriate conversations or contact with youth during or after the conference.

I agree to report the following immediately to the conference director and/or the Mo-Ranch Program Director:

- Any and all suspected child abuse.
- Any sponsor or conference staff member who may be involved in inappropriate relations with participants.
- I understand these reporting responsibilities extend to small group leaders, platform leadership, conference planning team members, Mo-Ranch staff members and anyone else who has contact with youth at a Mo-Ranch Conference.
- If I feel uncomfortable reporting suspected abuse to the conference director, I will report it to the Mo-Ranch Program Director. I may also choose to report the abuse to Human Resources or the President of Mo-Ranch, but I understand that I must report any suspected abuse.

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand what is expected of those supervising youth regarding Child Protection at a Mo-Ranch conference. I agree to follow the above policy during my time while at Mo-Ranch.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*Exception: If the sponsor in question is the parent or legal guardian of the youth in question, they may be alone together during a conference.

# YOUTH CONFERENCE SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The mission of Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly is to foster growth in God through Jesus Christ by sharing its unique living, learning, Christian environment.

## Adult sponsors play a key role in the success of each of our conferences.

- Each group must send a minimum of one adult for every five youth. Churches must send sponsors of the same gender as those youth who will be participating.
- In order to maintain a ratio, adult sponsors may be asked to supervise youth from another congregation up to a maximum of five youth. Confirmation of registration is dependent on the availability of sufficient adult sponsors for each gender and/or the gender requirement. Churches with small congregations that find it difficult to meet the sponsor/participant ratio should contact the Mo-Ranch Program Office ([programs@moranch.com](mailto:programs@moranch.com)) for assistance in securing appropriate supervision for their youth.
- Mo-Ranch has a zero-tolerance policy regarding child abuse (including, but not limited to physical, emotional or sexual abuse).
- Mo-Ranch sponsors must also abide by the Rule of Three (2 youth and 1 adult) or (2 unrelated adults and 1 youth) to ensure safety for all guests. No adult shall be left alone with a minor; therefore, sponsors will not be housed in the same hotel room as youth participants. A reasonable ratio of adult workers will be maintained in each situation involving the supervision of minors.
- Mo-Ranch staff and volunteer directors will engage in ongoing supervision and may make unannounced visits to classes and other program sites during the conference.
- Sponsors are responsible for the behavior of their youth at all times.
- Sponsors are asked not to bring non-participant children to the conference.
- Each sponsor is expected to participate fully in all conference activities and to facilitate home group devotions.
- Sponsors are responsible for ensuring that their youth attend all conference activities.
- Sponsors are expected to maintain a positive attitude because it will make a difference in the atmosphere of the conference. Your attitude has a direct effect on your youth and on your own enjoyment. You are an important role model!
- Sponsors are expected to see that youth observe afternoon rest times and lights-out each night, eat regularly, drink plenty of water, and remember to use sunscreen.
- Sponsors are not allowed to leave Mo-Ranch once your group has checked-in (unless for emergencies and with notification of the Mo-Ranch Programs Team).
- In the case where a youth participant becomes ill/injured and requires medical attention, youth sponsors are the designated responsible adult(s) to transport/accompany the young person to the clinic or hospital. Mo-Ranch staff and/or conference leadership will provide guidance and assistance with the young person's situation (e.g. responding with First Aid, providing directions to urgent care or the ER, etc.), but **youth sponsors remain the primary caregiver for the youth.**
- Sponsors are encouraged to be open to all the good ways God is at work in the conference community.

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Signature

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Date

# YOUTH CONFERENCE COVENANT OF CONDUCT

The mission of Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly is to foster growth in God through Jesus Christ by sharing its unique living, learning, Christian environment.

More than a set of “rules” or “guidelines” a covenant between conference participants remembers our Biblical foundations. God who created all that was, is, and is to come made covenant to love and care for us at all times. Following God’s lead, we covenant with one another when we gather in community in order to make a safe and caring place for playing, studying, worshiping and living.

I promise to participate in the building and caring for community by:

- Being fully present and participating in all scheduled activities
- Showing respect for conference participants, staff, other guests as well as the ranch itself by:
  - Asking before entering a housing facility that is not my “home” for the week
  - Abiding by the smoke-free building policy
  - Being responsible for my belongings and caring for the property of others
  - Refraining from throwing things off either catwalk
  - Swimming in groups, at designated times
  - Refraining from jumping or diving from the highway bridge or the dam
  - Using the Ropes Course only while Mo-Ranch staff are present
- Dressing appropriately by wearing clothing that allows me to participate fully in the activity at hand, keeping in mind that I am attending a church youth conference and that I represent my family, congregation, and community at all times by what I say, do, and wear. I will not bring clothing that advertises alcohol or tobacco or other illegal substances; nor which contain language/pictures that demean or ridicule someone’s gender, sexuality, or ethnic origin.
  - Swimsuits must fit in such a way that they stay on my body. Swim trunks should be worn at the waistline and not be shorter than mid-length (6”-7” inseam).
  - Water activities/recreation events: All participants are expected to wear t-shirts covering the torso/with sides.
- Refraining from any and all sexual activity and inappropriate conduct of any kind while at Mo-Ranch.
- Abiding by laws prohibiting the possession or use of illegal drugs and which prohibit the possession or use of alcohol by persons under the age of 21. (As an adult over the age of 21, I will abstain from consuming alcohol during the conference). I will take medication prescribed to me by a doctor only as directed.
- Caring for the environment in which we are all learning, playing and living by putting trash and recyclables in to the appropriate containers; using my audio devices in such a way that they do not disrupt others; watching the ways I express myself through words and actions; and minimizing technological distractions (texting, phones, tablets).
- Leaving at home items such as: skateboards, scooters, rollerblades, firearms, knives, weapons of any kind, incendiary devices (matches, lighters, fireworks and so on), laser pointers, or other items that could disrupt the conference or other Mo-Ranch guests.
- Practicing the "Rule of Three" (2 youth and 1 adult, or 2 unrelated adults and 1 youth) while in classrooms, walking about the ranch, and in housing.

I agree to abide by this covenant while I am a member of this community. I understand that if I break this covenant by endangering or disrespecting myself or others, I may be sent home at the discretion of Mo-Ranch leadership. If I am youth and am sent home, it will be at my parent’s expense and my church may be notified.

Participant Name (printed)

Signature

Date

I have read the Conference Participant Covenant and understand if the decision is made to send my youth home, it will be at my expense.

Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

Signature

Date

## PRESBYTERIAN MO-RANCH ASSEMBLY

### AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE, ASSUMPTION OF RISK INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

PARTICIPANTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Church, Town & Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Whereas the above-named participant (hereinafter referred to as "participant") wishes to be accepted for participation and take part in programs (hereinafter referred to as "Programs") to be organized, conducted, and supervised by Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly of Hunt, Texas (hereinafter referred to as "Mo-Ranch"); and in consideration of Mo-Ranch's action in allowing participant to participate in such Programs:

The undersigned, as legal guardian of participant, acknowledges that during the said Programs that participant has requested to participate in, certain risks and dangers may occur. These include but are not limited to the hazards of physically demanding activities, ropes courses and aquatic activities, accident or illness in remote places without medical facilities and the forces of nature. The undersigned further recognizes that these risks may include loss or damage to personal property, physical or psychological damage and/or injury not excluding fatality due to accidents, which may occur. I further understand that in participating in the Programs that participant is requesting to participate in, participant will be exposed to the elements of nature, including temperature extremes and inclement weather.

In consideration of, and for the right to participate in, Programs and services arranged for participant by Mo-Ranch, its Owners, Trustees, Directors, Officers, Employees, Agents, and/or Associates (herein after all called "Mo-Ranch"), the undersigned hereby **ASSUMES ALL THE ABOVE RISKS AND ANY OTHER ORDINARY RISK INCIDENTAL TO THE NATURE OF PROGRAMS WHICH ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY FORESEEABLE. THE UNDERSIGNED ALSO AGREES TO AND SHALL HOLD HARMLESS AND UNCONDITIONALLY INDEMNIFY MO-RANCH, ITS OWNERS, TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AND/OR ASSOCIATES FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL ACTIONS, CLAIMS, LOSSES, COSTS, DAMAGES, EXPENSES AND LIABILITY OF ANY AND EVERY KIND (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ATTORNEY'S FEES) FOR ANY AND ALL INJURIES TO OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO PARTICIPANT, OR DAMAGE TO OR LOSS OF ANY PROPERTY DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR CAUSED BY OR CONNECTED WITH OR INCIDENTAL TO OR RESULTING FROM PARTICIPANT'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROGRAMS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY ACT, OMISSION OR NEGLIGENCE OF MO-RANCH OR ITS OWNERS, TRUSTEES, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AND/OR ASSOCIATES, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT IT IS CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY A PARTY INDEMNIFIED HEREUNDER.**

The undersigned hereby gives permission and authorizes medical personnel selected by Mo-Ranch or its agents to provide any medical care for participant, which they believe to be required. This authorization is unlimited in scope including, but not limited to, authority to order injections, anesthesia, surgery, and other invasive medical procedures. The undersigned also understands and agrees to assume full financial responsibility for paying all costs and expenses associated with the provision of medical care for participant. Furthermore, the undersigned also agrees to assume full financial responsibility of any costs associated with any specialized means of evacuation necessary to transport participant to an appropriate medical care facility. The undersigned affirms that the health of participant is good and there is not ongoing physician's care or treatment for any undisclosed condition that bears upon participant's fitness to safely participate in the activities of Programs. In addition, certain health and medical information must be made known to the staff conducting the Program so that they are prepared to respond appropriately if the need arises. This information will be held in confidence.

The undersigned also states that participant is not under, and will not be under, the influence of any chemical substances other than prescribed medication; including alcohol. The undersigned further states that any medication participant may be taking will not affect participant's full participation in Programs or affect participant's personal safety or the safety of others. The undersigned also understand that the participation of participant is entirely VOLUNTARY. Participant enters into this activity and takes full responsibility for their decision to participate, or not to participate, and agrees to follow all safety instruction and rules.

Both parties irrevocably consent and submit to the jurisdiction and venue of the State and Federal Courts having jurisdiction of Kerr County, Texas in connection with any suit, action, or other proceeding concerning this Agreement and Release. If any dispute results, then both parties agree to binding arbitration. If any provision of this Agreement and Release is found to be unenforceable by a Court of the last resort, it is the parties' intention that the Court should reform the unenforceable provision so as to best approximate the parties' intent, and to enforce the provision as reformed. **TEXAS LAW SHALL APPLY TO THIS AGREEMENT and its VALIDITY, CONSTRUCTION, INTERPRETATION, NEGOTIATION, PERFORMANCE, DEFAULT AND/OR ENFORCEMENT.**

Agreement and Release for participation starting \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Date

Signature of Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian if a minor \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the following program(s) you will be participating in while at Mo-Ranch:**

☐ Youth Conference ☐ Retreat ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESBYTERIAN MO-RANCH ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION AND HEALTH INFORMATION**  
**PRESBYTERIAN MO-RANCH ASSEMBLY**  
**REGISTRATION AND HEALTH INFORMATION**

Activities provided by Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly Programs are by their nature physically and emotionally demanding. Therefore, all participants must be free of medical or physical conditions which might create undue risks to themselves or any others that depend on them. Good physical and emotional conditions will increase your enjoyment of the activities. If there is any doubt about your ability to safely participate in this experience, you should consider having a physical examination. A description of activities is available.

Church, Town & Conference \_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Legal Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt Size (Adult S-3X) \_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender Identity \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail (*parent's if a minor*) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**For Minors Only**

Parent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Parent/Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Participant lives with? \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
If you will be away from home during this Program, how can we reach you?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact** (for minors, please list someone other than parents/legal guardians)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Are you insured under a medical/accident/hospital plan? ☐ No ☐ Yes  
Carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Policy No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies to insects/plants? ☐ No ☐ Yes Please list \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies to medications? ☐ No ☐ Yes Please list \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies to food? ☐ No ☐ Yes Please list \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently taking any medications? ☐ No ☐ Yes Please list name of medications and reason for taking:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please disclose any condition, limitations, or needs which might affect your ability to participate in a program of rigorous physical fully and successfully and/or emotional outdoor activity in a remote setting. Please attach prescribed limitations and instructions from your doctor if applicable.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PHOTO RELEASE**

I understand that photographs, video and/or digital images (hereinafter "images"), may be taken of my participation or my minor's participation in various activities while at Mo-Ranch. I understand that no names or personal contact information will accompany any images. I understand that these images may be used in daily slide shows, web-site photo albums, video yearbooks, and other promotional materials and/or publications. I acknowledge below that I do consent to such images of my likeness or my minor's likeness being taken and do not request compensation for the use of my likeness or my minor's likeness.

**Adult participant or custodial parent or legal guardian signature**