

# MOTHER LODE CHURCH VOLUNTEER APPLICATION TO WORK WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

*"Come, my children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord."  
Psalm 34:11*

Welcome! Please take a moment to read this important information about volunteer service in our church.

First, thank you for considering volunteer service in children's and youth ministries. Please know that your special gifts are appreciated. Coordinating the use of volunteers is a challenging, but rewarding task. Our church body could not function without the support and commitment of volunteers. Mother Lode Church is obligated by the Lord and by California State Law to protect our children from harm, both physical and spiritual. This form helps us to make the best use of our volunteers. Thanks for taking the time to fill it out.

If you have questions concerning any part of this form, please contact the director of Children's or Youth Ministries. Again, thanks for your help and partnership!

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." I Peter 4:10*

NAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

----- (OFFICE USE ONLY) -----

REFERENCES CHECKED \_\_\_\_\_ CERTIFICATIONS HELD \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (First Aid, CPR, etc.)

MEMBER STATEMENT FORM RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_ INTERVIEWED \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required for non-members) (Date) (Date)

REVIEWED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

*(Reviewer to sign after all reference checks and interview are completed)*

Accepted for service \_\_\_\_\_ Denied acceptance for service \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Driver \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTHER LODE CHURCH POLICIES FOR VOLUNTEERS  
WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Physical and sexual abuse of children endangers the future and shatters the innocence and purity of childhood. Therefore, at Mother Lode Church the following policies reflect our commitment to provide protective care of all children, youth and volunteers who participate in church-sponsored activities.

1. Adults who have been convicted of either sexual or physical child abuse will not be accepted for volunteer service in any church-sponsored activity or program for children or youth.
2. Adult survivors of childhood sexual or physical abuse need the love and acceptance of this church family. Individuals who have such a history may wish to discuss their desire to work with children or youth with the pastoral staff prior to engaging in any volunteer service.
3. **Member volunteers** - All adult volunteers in leadership roles (e.g., Director of Children's Ministries, High School and Jr. High youth leaders, Children's church coordinators, etc.) working with youth or children are required to be members of Mother Lode Church for a period of at least one year. A volunteer who has been a member for a lesser time may assume a leadership role upon approval of the Elder Board. All other volunteers who are not members of Mother Lode Church may work in non-leadership roles.
4. **Non-member volunteers** seeking to work with youth or children may be allowed to work alongside a member if the following requirements are met:
  - a. Must have regularly attended Mother Lode Church for a period of at least six months.
  - b. Have a Mother Lode Church member in good standing vouch for this person in writing. **OR**
  - a. Must be a member of another Christian church and in regular attendance for at least one year.
  - b. Obtain a written reference from their home church pastor.
  - c. Have a Mother Lode Church member in good standing vouch for this person in writing.
5. Adult volunteers should observe the "two adult" rule. At least two adults should supervise activities in which children or youth are involved.
6. No adult should spend unsupervised time alone with any child or adolescent without the awareness and consent of that individual's parents or legal guardians.
7. Adult volunteers should immediately report any behaviors that seem abusive or inappropriate to the senior pastor, an elder, and/or children's ministry director.

NAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**/ have read and agree to comply with the above policies.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature of applicant)*



CHURCH HISTORY AND PRIOR YOUTH WORK

Are you a member of Mother Lode Church?      Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Date received into Membership \_\_\_\_\_

If not, are you interested in membership with this church?      Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Are you a member of another church?      Yes \_\_\_              No \_\_\_

Date received into membership \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church name, address, and name of pastor \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(If you are not a member of Mother Lode Church please have a church member fill out the statement attached to the application)*

Please write a brief statement of how you became a Christian.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In what activities/ministries of our church are you presently involved?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the type of youth/children's activities you prefer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List all previous non-church work involving youth or children (list each organization; name, address, phone, type of work performed and dates of service).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any gifts, callings, training, education or other factors that have prepared you for children or youth work:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any certifications you currently hold in first aid, CPR, life guarding, etc.:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## REFERENCES

Please list below references whom we may contact regarding your character and suitability for working with children and youth.

List two personal references that are well acquainted with you (not former employers or relatives).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

How long have they known you? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have they known you? \_\_\_\_\_

If you have served in another church, please list a reference from that church.

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER LODE CHURCH MEMBER STATEMENT  
For NON-MEMBER VOLUNTEER

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being a member in good standing of Mother Lode Church, do hereby attest to the character of \_\_\_\_\_.  
He/she is applying for volunteer service with children or youth ministries and is not a member of Mother Lode Church but I certify that he/she meets one of the following criteria:

Has been in regular attendance at Mother Lode Church for a minimum of 6 months. *(Please cite the criteria upon which this condition is met by stating date and area of participation in church activities; i.e., regular attendance at a Bible study, prayer meeting, Men's meeting, Sunday School class or other regular activity for which you can substantiate a date that this person started attending the church).* Specific class or group at which this person has been in attendance with you

\_\_\_\_\_

First date that you can verify attendance \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Has been a member of another Christian church for at least one year at which they are in regular attendance. *(This will be verified by a reference check)*  
Please give a brief statement as to the applicant's character, fitness and suitability for the position. State how long you have known the applicant and under what circumstances.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_