



USA Girl Scouts Overseas  
420 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
New York, NY 10018 USA

5 September 2024

MEMORANDUM for Private Organizations office and Garrison Command

SUBJECT: USA Girl Scouts Child Protection Training

USA Girl Scouts Overseas (USAGSO) has developed Child Protection training in response to sexual abuse and molestation (SAM) prevention training. This training prepares supervising adults of Girl Scout youth to recognize, respond to, and report concerns of child abuse and neglect. Additionally, supervising adults will be empowered to prevent abuse by learning Girl Scout recommended practices, policies and procedures. Girl Scout practices, policies, and procedures are proactive measures designed to prevent abusers from interacting with Girl Scouts and foster a safe space for children to thrive.

Below are the topics and content covered in the training modules:

1. Volunteer role in preventing abuse
2. The 3 Rs of abuse: Recognize, Respond, Report
3. The different types of child abuse
4. Common myths about abuse
5. How to recognize the signs of child abuse
6. How to recognize potential abusers
7. Grooming and its role in sexual abuse
8. How to respond to a child with concerns about abuse
9. Current GSUSA Practices, Policies, and Procedures
  - a. Zero-tolerance for abuse and youth violence
  - b. Background screenings
  - c. Adult-to-youth ratios
10. Setting boundaries between adults and children
  - a. Public and non-sexual interactions and conversations
11. How to Report Abuse
  - a. All Girl Scout adults should report concerns of abuse

All Girl Scout volunteers must complete the above training within sixty (60) days of registering as a volunteer or before volunteering at an in-person event that requires USAGSO approval such



as an overnight camping trip or field trip off site. Additional information provided to volunteers is how to report abuse if not residing within the United States, examples include if the volunteer is living/working on a military installation, an international school, or in a foreign country.

If additional information is needed regarding Girl Scouts Child Protection training is needed, please contact Kristen Van Norman at [kvannorman@girlscouts.org](mailto:kvannorman@girlscouts.org).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen Van Norman" with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

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