

**COLLINS & WEST HARTLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**SAFE SANCTUARIES PARTICIPATION COVENANT STATEMENT**

The congregations of Collins & West Hartland Churches are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all vulnerable persons and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. The following policy statements reflect our congregation's commitment to preserving this church as a holy place of safety and protection for all who would enter and as a place in which all people can experience the love of God through relationships with others.

1. No adult who has been convicted of abuse of any vulnerable person (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or financial exploitation) should volunteer to work with vulnerable persons in any church-sponsored activity.
2. All adult volunteers involved with vulnerable persons of our church must have been members of, or been attending the congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment.
3. Adult volunteers with vulnerable persons shall observe the "Two-Adult Rule" and "Rule of Three" always, so that no adult is ever alone with vulnerable persons.
4. Adult volunteers with vulnerable persons shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and state laws regarding abuse.
5. Adult volunteers shall immediately report to their supervisor any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

**Please answer each of the following questions:**

1. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe and abide by all church policies regarding working in ministries with vulnerable persons?  
 Yes  No
2. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to observe the "Two-Adult Rule" and "Rule of Three" always?  
 Yes  No
3. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to abide by the six-month rule before beginning a volunteer assignment?  
 Yes  No
4. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to participate in training and education events provided by the church related to your volunteer assignment?  
 Yes  No
5. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to promptly report abusive or inappropriate behavior to your supervisor?  
 Yes  No
6. As a volunteer in this congregation, do you agree to inform a minister of this congregation if you have ever been convicted of abuse?  
 Yes  No

I have read this **Participation Covenant**, and I agree to observe and abide by the policies set forth above.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print full name \_\_\_\_\_