

Youth Exchange Student Protection Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

Rotary District 7210 Youth Exchange Program is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all our Youth Exchange Students, both inbound and outbound.

We do this by:

- Recognizing that all young people have the right to freedom from harassment and abuse.
- Ensuring that all our staff and volunteers are carefully selected and accept responsibility for helping to prevent the abuse of children in their care.
- Responding swiftly and appropriately to all suspicions or allegations of harassment and/or abuse, and by providing adults and young people with the opportunity to voice any concern they may have.
- Appointing a Youth Exchange Youth Protection Officer who will act as the main point of contact for parents, students, host families and outside agencies.
- Ensuring that access to confidential information is restricted.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of our *Exchange Student Protection Policy* and activities periodically.

Our Youth Protection Officer is:

Name: Chris Ashman
Address: 9 Garden Terrace
Goshen, NY 10924-1403
Phone: 845.294.6140 (H)
845.857.3507 (C)
E-mail: CAshman@hvc.rr.com

In an emergency or if urgent, try all methods to contact a responsible party, regardless of the time, until you reach a person to speak with directly; do not simply leave a message.

Exchange Student's Bill of Rights

When feeling threatened you have the right to:

- Trust your instincts or feelings.
- Expect privacy.
- Say no to unwanted touching or affection.
- Say no to an adult's inappropriate demands or requests.
- Withhold information that could jeopardize your safety.
- Refuse gifts.
- Be rude or unhelpful if the situation warrants.
- Run, scream and make a scene.
- Physically fight off unwanted advances.
- Ask for help.
- Report any situation in which you feel threatened to your Host Club Youth Exchange Officer immediately.