



## **Ten Steps to Creating Safer Environments for Youth**

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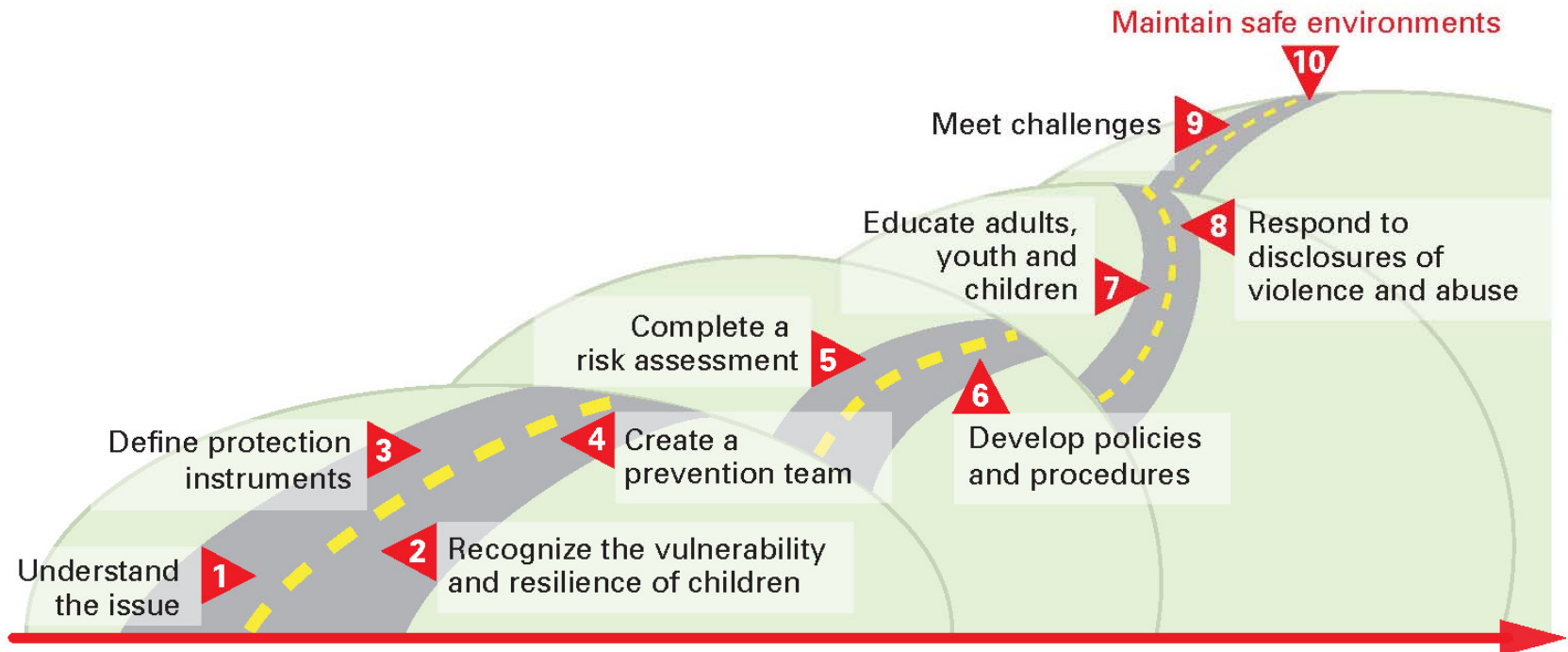
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A good plan is like a road map: it shows the final destination and usually the best way to get there.

~H. STANLEY JUDD

# TEN STEPS TO SAFE ENVIRONMENTS



# #4. CREATE A PREVENTION TEAM



- Who are the decision makers?
- Who has knowledge of legal systems?
- Who determines budget allocations?
- Who is responsible for communications?
- Who oversees programs and services for children?
- Who will hold the group accountable?

# Supreme Court Rulings

- 2004 – Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of St. George v. John Doe
- 1999 – Bazley v. Curry
- 1999 – Jacobi v. Griffiths



# Risk Management is not...

- An overreaction to a few small and over-reported incidents (spectrum)
- Going to guarantee 100% safety for children and youth
- Intended to be so onerous that organizations feel frustrated and overwhelmed.

# #5. COMPLETE A RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Identify

Measure

Control





**Identify**  
**Risk Management Checklist:**  
**How might a person be harmed in**  
**my organization?**



# Did you consider?

- Showers
- Locker rooms
- Transportation
- Releasing kids
- Off site activities
- Billeting
- Out of program contact
- Physical contact
- Discipline
- Road trips
- Sexual activity
- Integrated teams
- Photography
- Supervision
- premises



## Measure

How serious is it?

1- might happen

5- regularly occurs





**How could this risk be prevented or minimized through conduct, policy, education?**



# The six “P’s”

- Policies and Procedures
- Personnel
- Participants
- Parents
- Premises
- Programs



# # 6. DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- **PERSONNEL:** Screening, Code of Conduct, Training, Supervision, Relationship, Touching, Disclosure
- **PREMISES:** Access, Maintenance, Technology, Media
- **PARTICIPANTS:** In Program, Out-of-Program, Education
- **PARENTS AND VISITORS**

# # 7. EDUCATE ADULTS, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN

- **ADULTS**

- Code of Conduct
- Policies
- Bullying, abuse, violence
- Handling disclosures
- Convention on Rights of Child
- Healthy motivation
- Risk management

- **CHILDREN/YOUTH**

- Convention on Rights of the Child
- Bullying, abuse, violence
- Prevention strategies
- How and where to report
- How to help a friend

The quality of a child's life depends on decisions made everyday in households, communities and in the halls of government. We must make those choices wisely, and with children's best interests in mind ... **As children go, so go nations. It's that simple.**

~UNICEF

