



Dear New Castle County 4-H Leaders:

As the State 4-H Volunteer Coordinator, it is my pleasure to provide training opportunities for you as adult leaders to enhance the experience 4-H children have in our unique program. On August 10th, I will be coordinating a training session called **Stewards of Children** that will be held at the Carvel Research and Education Center in Georgetown. All of us on the 4-H staff have gone through the training and while it is by no means mandatory, we feel it important to offer this opportunity to as many members of the 4-H family as possible.

As adults, we are responsible for the safety of our children. It's important to teach children how to recognize and avoid risky situations, but it's unrealistic to think that a child can fend off sexual advances by an adult. Fortunately, we **can** protect them – by insisting on prevention policies in our youth serving organizations, by recognizing signs of sexual abuse, and by confronting and stopping abuse if it occurs.

Stewards of Children is a program that:

- Addresses child sexual abuse in the context of issues relevant to today
- Features a combination of survivor stories, expert advice and practical guidance
- Demonstrates a simple, 5-step approach that can protect the children we love from sexual abuse

Through Stewards of Children, I will learn:

- The 5 Steps to Protecting our Children™, and how these steps can be applied to keeping our youth safe
- How a few simple actions can have long-lasting, positive effects
- About child sexual abuse and that it can be prevented, stopped and overcome

Please join me for the important training on Monday, November 23, from 6:30-8:30pm, directly following the November Leader's meeting. This training will assist you and the children in which you work by enabling you to continue "Making the Best Better". For your convenience, dinner will be provided during the training.

To confirm your attendance, please contact Lisa Bishop by Friday, November 20. She can be reached at bishop@udel.edu or (302) 831-8965.

Yours in 4-H,

Ernie Lopez
State 4-H Volunteer Coordinator
University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources