

CYE Commitment to Safety

Catholic Youth Expeditions is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation and an official ministry listed in the National Directory of Catholic Organizations. We are dedicated to the mission of, “encounter Jesus Christ and fostering Catholic Christian community through expedition retreats of prayer, proclamation of the Gospel and outdoor adventure.” We believe safety to be a primary goal in all our activities to ensure expeditioners and staff a positive, safe environment to encounter the living person of Jesus Christ.

Activities

On expedition, CYE hosts a number of outdoor activities that necessarily require a participant to go outside themselves and be challenged physically, mentally and spiritually. As such, the participant is allowed to challenge themselves through outdoor adventure. Our primary adventure activities include: swimming, mountain biking, hiking, sailing, wake boarding, water skiing, running, ropes course and many other outdoor activities. CYE is committed to ensuring adequate supervision in these activities with a trained summer staff and using common sense when participating. With many outdoor activities, it must be stated that minor injuries may happen as a result of activities. This is to be expected and usually is not an exception.

Staff Preparation

All summer staff is required to take a CPR/First Aid Course at the beginning of summer. Select summer staff members are certified as lifeguards to ensure safety on our waterfront. Our water sports program includes summer staff members official certified through USA Waterski in ski boat driving and water ski/wake board instruction certification. A spring training course is offered for continued safety instruction to prepare for a high risk activity such as water skiing and wake boarding. Select summer staff members are licensed nurses and share in a considerable knowledge in remedial first aid.

Emergency Plans

The property of CYE is located close to first responders and an ER in Sturgeon Bay. We take seriously the proper plans to be carried out in the case of a medical emergencies. We are in contact with medical responders in the area at the beginning of the season. We are equipped with common first aid necessities for the summer and a health wellness room for immediate attention.

Safe Environment for God's Children

CYE is committed to creating a safe environment for all expeditioners. This begins with a well-trained summer staff. Our summer staff is required to take Protecting God's Children course in the beginning of the season to be certified through the Virtus program. Virtus the Catholic Church's commitment to making sure that any adult working with a young person under 18 is morally aware of maintaining healthy relationships and boundaries with participants. Every staff member is subjected to a background check before the beginning of the year. Supervision within the context of small-group accountability is a high priority for the safety of expeditions during the entire expedition. We believe a well-trained staff who is committed to achieving holiness in mind, body and soul is a primary responsibility of CYE leadership. Our staff signs a rigorous covenant for behavior for their summer commitment and any infringement upon these guidelines is immediately confronted. Likewise, expeditioners are required to sign a commitment to modesty and asked not to bring media such as ipods or cell phones on expeditions. Activities are overseen by a commitment to gender-based activities as often as possible (ie water sports)

Catholic Youth Expeditions is committed to safety for your children. Of course, there are unforeseen accidents that necessarily can happen as a result of a high energy outdoor adventure ministry. This should be considered when giving permission for your son/daughter to become an expeditioner. With prayer, backed up by common sense, CYE remains deeply committed to safety and responsible behavior.