



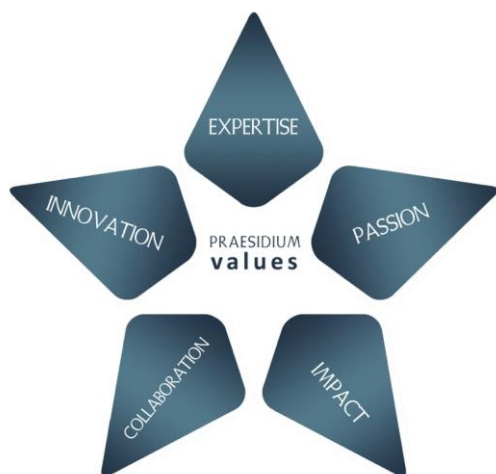
# 2022 Praesidium Report

Research Trends and  
Safeguarding Strategies

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## ABOUT PRAESIDIUM

*Our mission is to help you protect those in your care from abuse and to help preserve trust in your organization.*

Praesidium is a **leading innovator** of scientifically-based solutions designed to transform the way organizations approach the prevention of sexual abuse. For **over 30 years**, Praesidium's expertise, consulting, and solutions have helped **foster safer environments** for children, vulnerable adults, staff, volunteers, and all parties involved.

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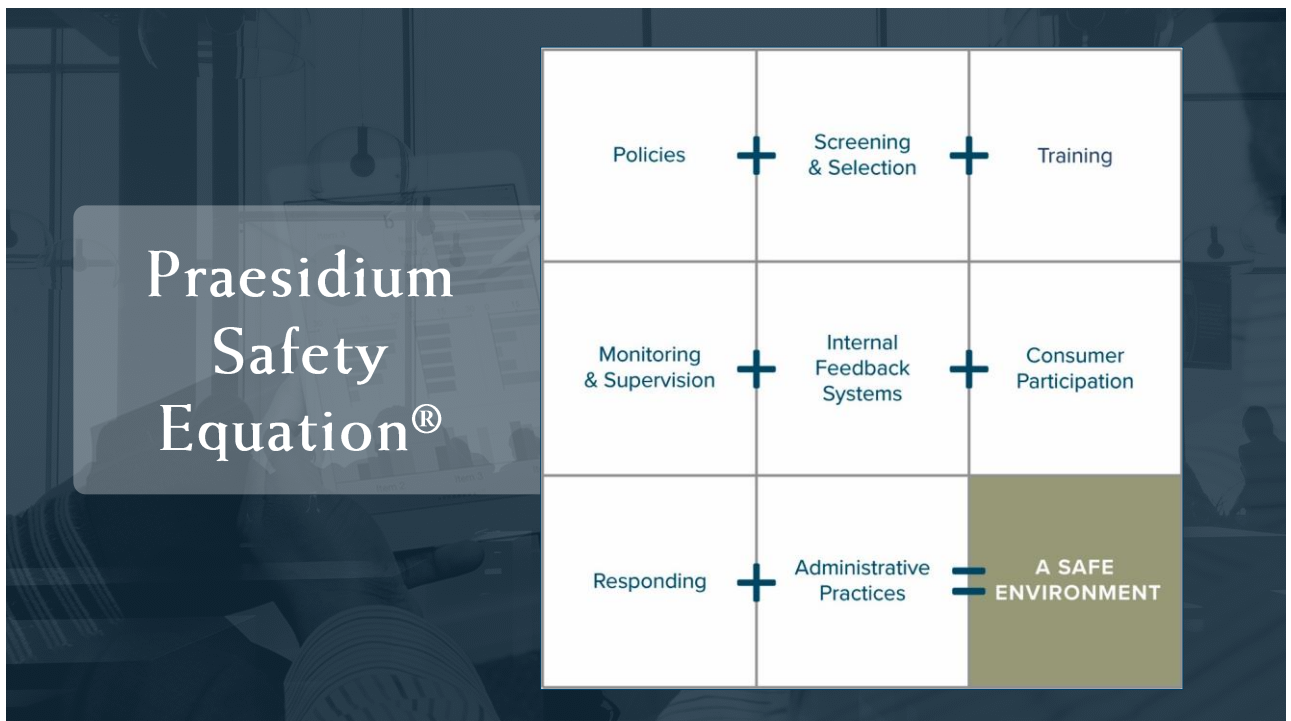
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## We believe abuse is **PREVENTABLE**

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## NATIONAL YSOs BENCHMARKING DATA

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## METHODOLOGY



Reviewed 10 federated YSOs' membership requirements



Conducted a qualitative analysis to determine trends

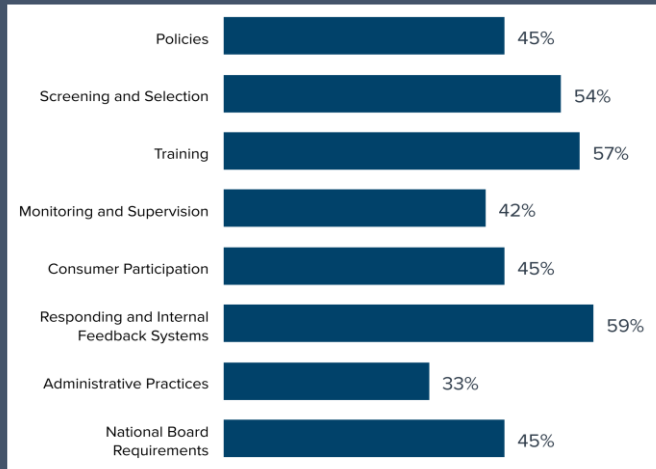


Trends are broken up into 31 requirements and organized by the relevant operation within the Praesidium Safety Equation

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## AVERAGE OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS BY OPERATION



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## COMMON TRENDS ACROSS YSOs



### POLICIES

- **70%** of the YSOs reviewed currently require entities to have policies that define appropriate and inappropriate boundaries.

### SCREENING & SELECTION

- **80%** of the YSOs reviewed require their entities to conduct specific types of background screening.
- **60%** of YSOs reviewed require entities to complete reference checks on all applicants.

### TRAINING

- **80%** of the YSOs reviewed require adults with access to consumers to complete comprehensive abuse prevention and responding training.
- **30%** of YSOs require adults to repeat abuse prevention training regularly.

### CONSUMER PARTICIPATION

- **50%** of the YSOs reviewed require their entities to provide organizational policies to parents.

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# COMMON TRENDS ACROSS YSOs



## RESPONDING & INTERNAL FEEDBACK SYSTEMS

- **60%** of the YSOs reviewed provide entities with a centralized reporting line where individuals (staff, parents, consumers) can report concerns and can report anonymously if desired.
- **60%** of YSOs require entities to report all incidents of abuse to authorities.



## ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES

- **30%** of YSOs require local board members to complete abuse prevention training and receive organizational data and trends regarding abuse risk management.
- **50%** of YSOs reviewed have Youth Protection Officers at each local organization.



## NATIONAL BOARD REQUIREMENTS

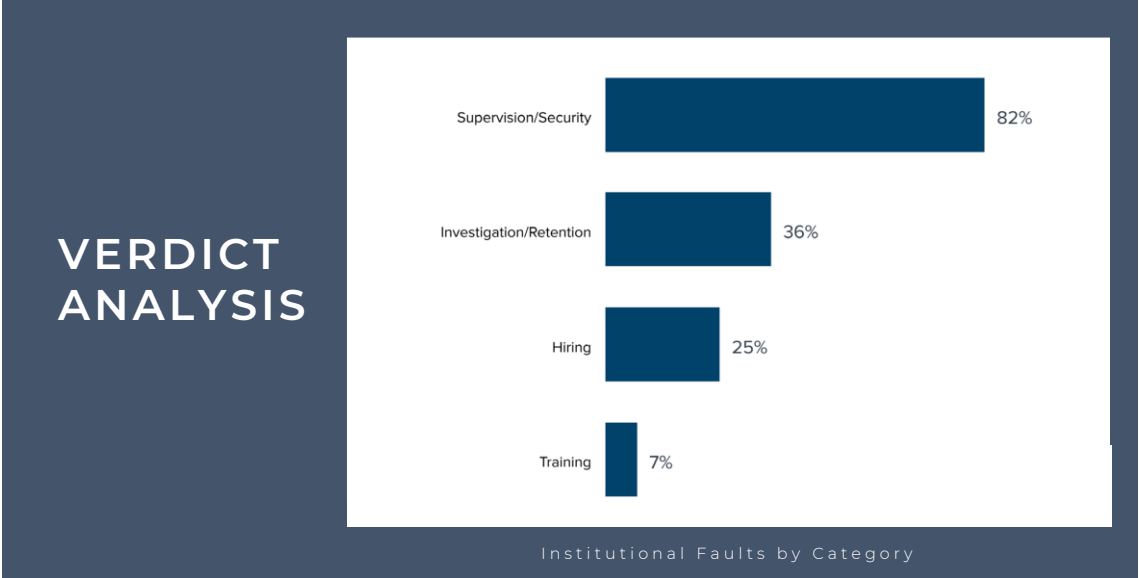
- **80%** of the YSOs reviewed have a National Youth Protection Officer.

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# DATA AND CASE RESEARCH TRENDS

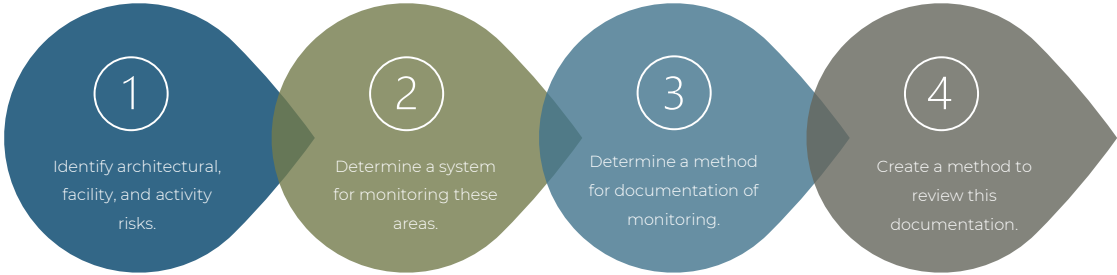
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**SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIES**

CREATE A FORMALIZED MONITORING SYSTEM



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## VERDICT ANALYSIS

*\* PULLED FROM 44 IDENTIFIED CASES FROM JUNE 2018 - FEBRUARY 2022*

<b>Range (all cases)</b>	<b>Mean (all cases)</b>	<b>Median (all cases)</b>
\$35,000 - \$55,000,000	\$5,684,948	\$1,530,000
<b>Average payout for cases settled out of court</b>	<b>Average payout for cases with jury verdicts</b>	
\$2,500,000	\$10,300,000	

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## VERDICT ANALYSIS

*\* PULLED FROM 44 IDENTIFIED CASES FROM JUNE 2018 - FEBRUARY 2022*

<b>9%</b> Cases involved a youth offender	<b>7%</b> Cases involved a female offender	<b>49%</b> Cases the victim(s) aged 13-17 years old
<b>24%</b> Cases the victim(s) aged 6-9 years old	<b>35%</b> Cases the victim was male	<b>65%</b> Cases the victim was female

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# SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIES

LEADERSHIP COMMITMENT



Denies an abuse incident could happen  
Hopes past success will prevent future abuse  
Has few standardized procedures  
Responses tend to be punitive  
Treats incidents as staff failure

Focus on reacting to abuse rather than preventing it  
Uses state regulations as standard of care  
Trains staff on how to report abuse and policy violations, but staff may struggle with reporting requirements  
Minimizes red-flag behaviors

Consumer protection is a designated responsibility  
Training is scheduled frequently, presents relevant content, is impactful, and offered "just in time"  
Screening process is designed to assess abuse risk  
Policies clearly define appropriate boundaries and how to manage high-risk activities

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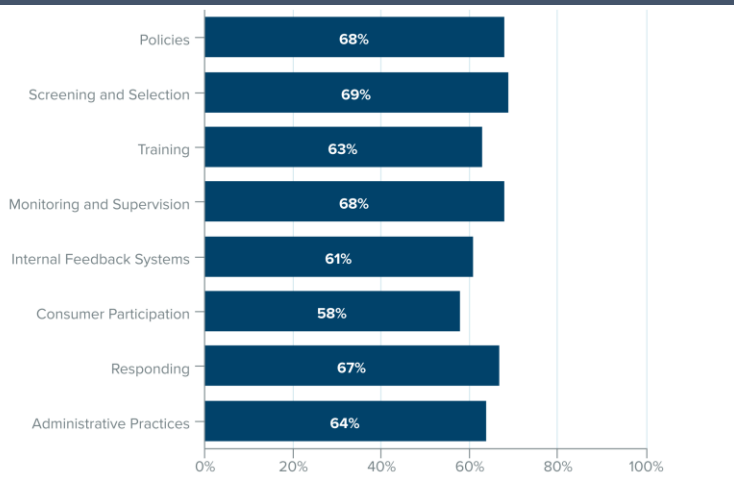
**PRAESIDIUM'S  
INTERNAL DATA  
UPDATES: *Know  
Your Score!* and  
Accreditation**

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## KNOW YOUR SCORE! TRENDS



Average KYS! Self-Assessment Scores by Operation (2016-2021)

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## KNOW YOUR SCORE! TRENDS

### HIGHEST SCORING STANDARDS

- **Standard 5 (76% average):** "The organization carefully reviews applicant information gathered during the screening process to guide the final decision."
- **Standard 20 (74% average):** "The organization's abuse risk management standards are consistently in place across all programs."
- **Standard 9 (71% average):** "The organization systematically monitors consumers."

### LOWEST SCORING STANDARDS

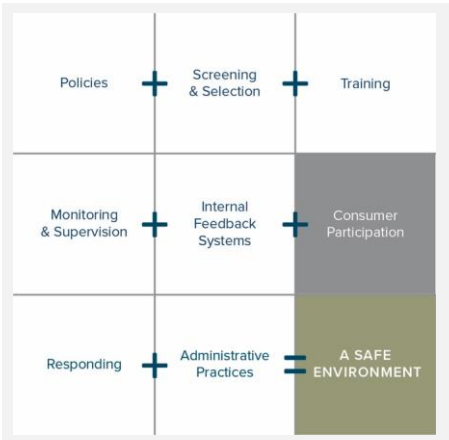
- **Standard 19 (59% average):** "The organization defines everyone's role in responding to consumer-to-consumer sexual activity"
- **Standard 23 (56% average):** "The organization has standards in place for its volunteers."
- **Standard 15 (52% average):** "The organization provides consumers with information related to preventing abuse."

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# SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIES

CONSUMER PARTICIPATION



## IMPORTANCE

Consumer participation is important because it involves caregivers and consumers in abuse prevention efforts.



## BEST PRACTICES

- ✓ Empower consumers to protect themselves from abuse
- ✓ Educate on appropriate boundaries with staff
- ✓ Provide caregivers and consumers with multiple ways to report concerns

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# ACCREDITATION DATA AND TRENDS

## HIGHEST SCORING STANDARDS

- **Standard 1, Component 3:** "The organization annually reviews all abuse prevention policies for relevance, utility, and necessity and modifies as appropriate."
- **Standard 20, Component 1:** "The organization has a point person or committee to manage all abuse prevention efforts."
- **Standard 9, Component 7:** "The organization requires employees and volunteers to adhere to established methods for monitoring and supervising consumer-to-consumer interactions."

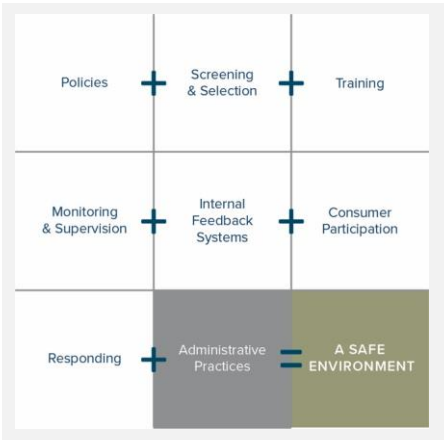
## LOWEST SCORING STANDARDS

- **Standard 22, Component 10:** "The organization requires all third-party organizations to read and sign a Code of Conduct, which includes information about behavioral expectations."
- **Standard 22, Component 12:** "The organization requires all third-party organizations to provide all individuals who may have access to the facility or consumers with minimal abuse prevention and responding training."
- **Standard 11, Component 25:** "The organization systematically identifies and manages where architecture may compromise supervision."

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# SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIES

WORKING WITH THIRD PARTIES



## ESTABLISH MINIMUM EXPECTATIONS

- ✓ Screening
- ✓ Training
- ✓ Supervision
- ✓ Responding
- ✓ Indemnity and Insurance

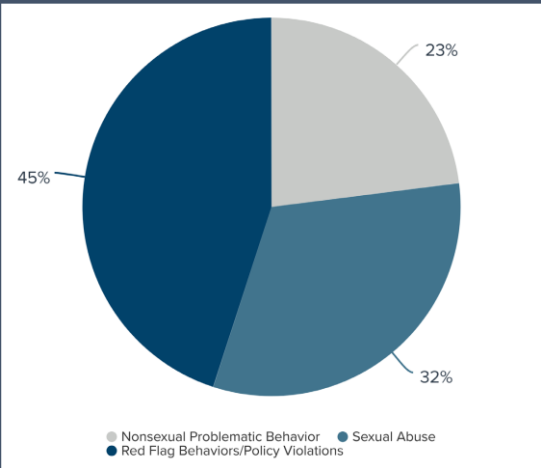
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## PRAESIDIUM'S INTERNAL DATA UPDATES: Helpline Service

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HELPLINE  
DATA:  
ADULT-TO-YOUTH  
INCIDENTS



Adult-to-Youth Incidents by Type, 2013-2021

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SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIES

TYPES OF BOUNDARY CROSSING BEHAVIORS



PHYSICAL

- ✔ Wrestles
- ✔ Tickles
- ✔ Massages
- ✔ Hugs too long or too often
- ✔ Lap-sits older children



PSYCHOLOGICAL

- ✔ Isolates children from parents and peers
- ✔ Creates personal friendships
- ✔ Chooses favorites
- ✔ Overly involved

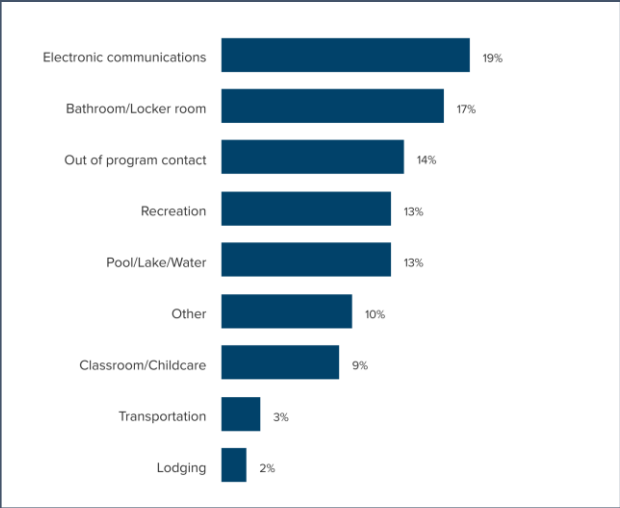


BEHAVIORAL

- ✔ Encourages breaking rules
- ✔ Keeps secrets
- ✔ Encourages alcohol use
- ✔ Encourages drug use
- ✔ Encourage use of pornography

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HELPLINE  
DATA:  
ADULT-TO-YOUTH  
INCIDENTS



Adult-to-Youth Incidents by Location, 2018-2021

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HELPLINE DATA: ADULT-TO-YOUTH INCIDENTS

DEMOGRAPHICS OF ADULT-TO-YOUTH INCIDENTS



80%

Of adults **demonstrating** red flags or abusive behaviors are **male**



63%

Of youth **subjected** to red flags or abusive behaviors are **female**



47%

Of youths **subjected** to red flags or abusive behaviors are **13-17 years old**

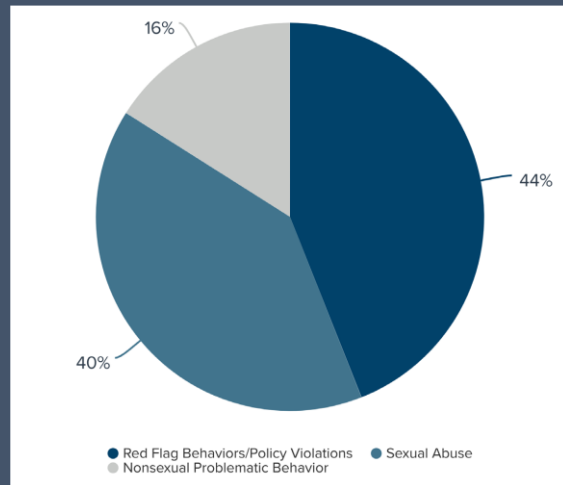


23%

Of youths **subjected** to red flags or abusive behaviors are **0-5 years old**

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## HELPLINE DATA: YOUTH-TO-YOUTH INCIDENTS

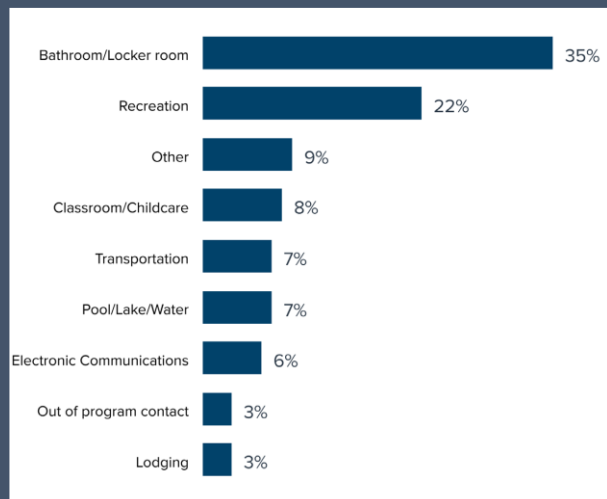


Youth-to-Youth Incidents by Type, 2013-2021

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## HELPLINE DATA: YOUTH-TO-YOUTH INCIDENTS



Youth-to-Youth Incidents by Location, 2018-2021

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# HIGH RISK SITUATIONS

## Locations

- ✔ Bathrooms
- ✔ Showers
- ✔ Bedrooms
- ✔ Vehicles
- ✔ Isolated areas

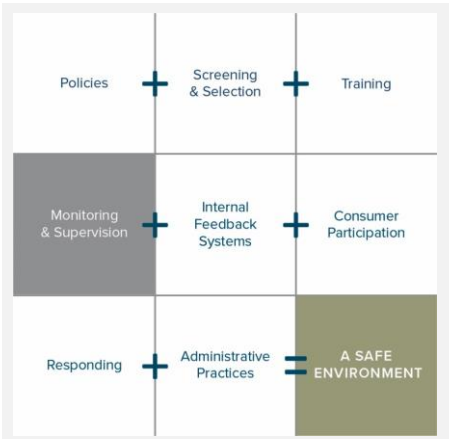
## Activities

- ✔ Personal Care Assistance
- ✔ Pools and Waterfronts
- ✔ Sleeping or Overnight Time
- ✔ Periods of Transition
- ✔ Transportation Activities
- ✔ Free Time

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# SAFEGUARDING STRATEGIES

MONITORING AND SUPERVISION



## IMPORTANCE

Monitoring and supervision are important because they decrease the opportunity for privacy and inappropriate behaviors.



## BEST PRACTICES

- ✔ Monitor consumers
- ✔ Supervise staff and volunteers
- ✔ Manage high-risk locations and activities
- ✔ Use violations as teaching moments

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## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

- ✓ Does your agency have written policies that clearly define boundaries?
- ✓ Does your screening process assess for abuse risk?
- ✓ Do you require all individuals working directly with consumers to complete training that is preventative, not just reactive?
- ✓ Do you have defined methods for monitoring and supervising staff, volunteers, and consumers?
- ✓ Do you have specific procedures for managing high-risk activities related to preventing abuse?
- ✓ Do you have written procedures for responding to policy violations, suspected abuse, and consumer-to-consumer sexualized behaviors?

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## STAY IN TOUCH

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