## Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are so excited your child has chosen to participate in our program! While we hope that your child's experience is enjoyable, we also want to articulate our commitment to making sure it is a safe one, too. In support of this effort, the University of Missouri System has several safeguards in place to ensure that our youth programs provide an enriching and rewarding experience. You may review the scope of these measures through our Youth Protection policy and related resources, available online on the UM System website (linked below).

Part of our ongoing commitment also means that we want to be notified of any concerning behavior. If you have any concerns about the safety of your child, or any youth participant, or want to make a report of suspected inappropriate behavior on the part of an individual involved with a youth program, we encourage that you report that information so we can act immediately. Information about how you can make a report is outlined below.

At any time during your child's involvement with your chosen youth program, please feel free to reach out with questions you might have about safety protocols that are in place at University of Missouri System universities.

We hope that your child's experience is enriching and fun!

## Youth Protection Program

Ethics, Compliance and Audit Services, University of Missouri System umyouthprograms@umsystem.edu (573) 882-8847 JoAnne Flowers, Manager, Youth Protection Program

## Information about how you can make a report

- 1. If you believe the situation is an emergency, please contact 911.
- 2. If you believe that the situation involves criminal behavior, we encourage you to contact the University Police Department or local law enforcement agency where the youth program is taking place.
- 3. In addition to contacting law enforcement, or if you do not choose to make a report to law enforcement, we encourage you to make a report of your concerns in the following way(s):
  - a. Report your concerns to the coordinator of the youth program in which your child is participating.
  - b. Report your concerns to the Title IX and Equity Office at the appropriate University office of the University of Missouri System.

**MU**: Office for Institutional Equity Andy Hayes, Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer 320 Jesse Hall or 145 Heinkel Columbia, MO 65211 (573) 882-2824 or (573) 882-3880 Equity.missouri.edu equity@missouri.edu

**S&T**: Office of Equity & Title IX Paul Hirtz, Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer Technology Development Center 900 Innovation Drive, Suite 500 Rolla, MO 65409 (573) 341-7734 equity.mst.edu **UMKC:** Office of Equity and Title IX KC Atchinson, Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer Administrative Center 212D, 5115 Oak Street Kansas City, MO 64112 (816) 235-6705 umkc.edu/titleIX

UMSL: Title IX & Equity Office Jessica Swederske, Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer One University Boulevard 153 JC Penney St. Louis, MO 63121 (314) 516-5748 umsl.edu/title-ix/index.html

The Equity Officers and Title IX Coordinators for each university oversee the University's compliance with its sexual harassment and anti-discrimination policies. They are available to meet with youth program participants about matters involving discrimination or harassment and can explain the University's procedures when a complaint is filed.

## **Additional resources**

- Youth Protection Policy
- Access additional information and resources on the UM System <u>Youth Protection</u> webpage