

The Safeguarding Policy

Details of the organisation

Name of organisation: Reality Outreach Ministries International (hereafter referred to as ROMI)

Address: 27 Fairfield Avenue, Fareham, Hampshire. PO14 1EB

Tel No: 07977040722 **Email address:** heavensgates@realityoutreach.org.uk

Charity Number: 1061225 **Company Number:** 3174438

Insurance Company: Ansvar – Liability Insurance

Safeguarding Coordinator: Mr Christopher Snook

The following is a brief description of our organisation and the type of work / activities we undertake with children / vulnerable adults:

Our primary work is to conduct evangelistic drama events with churches. Each host church that we work with will provide us with approximately 40 volunteers, mostly adults, but with an age range of approximately 6 to 60+ years. Our team is a married couple (Chris & Deborah Snook) who work with the group of volunteers to enable them to present the drama as part of their church activity.

Our commitment

As a Leadership we recognise the need to provide a safe and caring environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults. We acknowledge that children, young people and vulnerable adults can be the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect. We accept the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Human Rights, which states that everyone is entitled to “all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status”. We also concur with the Convention on the Rights of the Child which states that children should be able to develop their full potential, free from hunger and want, neglect and abuse. They have a right to be protected from “all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s), or any other person who has care of the child.” As a Leadership we have therefore adopted the procedures set out in this safeguarding policy in accordance with statutory guidance.

The Leadership undertakes to:

- endorse and follow all national and local safeguarding legislation and procedures, in addition to the international conventions outlined above.
- provide on-going safeguarding training for all its workers.
- ensure our workers have a current DBS certificate where it is legal to apply for one .
- support the Safeguarding Coordinator in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children and vulnerable adults.
- file a copy of the policy with the trustees of Reality Outreach Ministries International

Safeguarding awareness

Our team will have regular safeguarding training and DBS checks through their separate connections and work with their home church, Waypoint Church, Locks Heath. This is carried out every three years or less.

Practice guidelines

As an organisation working with children, young people and vulnerable adults we wish to operate and promote good working practice. This will enable workers to run activities safely, develop good relationships and minimise the risk of unfounded accusation. Our workers will always work with groups of people including adults from the hosting church and will not work with children, young people and vulnerable adults alone.

Responding to allegations of abuse

Due to the nature of our work, as described above, any allegations of abuse in any form will be reported back to the Safeguarding Lead of the hosting church. If an allegation is made against a worker from ROMI the local church Safeguarding Lead would be put in touch with our trustees to communicate directly with them.

Photography policy

The main thrust of our work involves the hosting church volunteers in making a public drama presentation. This presentation will be photographed by ROMI these photographs may be shared online and in ROMI publications. It will also be filmed with a DVD produced and made available for purchase to the volunteers and public. They will never be photographed or filmed in compromising situations and details of the children's names or addresses will not be included with any photos.

The hosting church will be made aware of this in writing and will be requested to make all volunteers and parents of volunteers aware when they sign up, giving them the option to opt out if they don't wish to take part. The volunteers will also be verbally reminded of this policy by our team during our introduction meeting.

Pastoral care and accountability

Pastoral care and accountability take place through regular contact with our parent undertaking – Reality Outreach Ministries Inc. based in Canada and USA – via monthly zoom staff meetings and regular contact with the head of missions, Mr Carl Bath.

Signed by: CS CHRISTOPHER SNOOK

Date: 09/03/2023

APPENDIX 1

Leadership Safeguarding Statement

The ROMI leadership recognises the importance of its ministry / work with children, young people and adults in need of protection and its responsibility to protect everyone entrusted to our care.

The following statement was agreed by the leadership on: 09/03/2023

This organisation is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and ensuring their well-being.

Specifically:

- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect of children and young people (those under 18 years of age) and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We believe every child should be valued, safe and happy. We want to make sure that children we have contact with know this and are empowered to tell us if they are suffering harm.
- All children and young people have the right to be treated with respect, to be listened to and to be protected from all forms of abuse.
- We recognise that we all have a responsibility to help prevent the physical, sexual, psychological, financial and discriminatory abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.
- We recognise the personal dignity and rights of vulnerable adults and will ensure all our policies and procedures reflect this.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of all those who will work with children and vulnerable adults.

We are committed to:

- Following the requirements for UK legislation in relation to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good practice recommendations.
- Respecting the rights of children as described in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Implementing the requirements of legislation in regard to people with disabilities.
- Ensuring that workers adhere to the agreed procedures of our safeguarding policy.
- Keeping up to date with national and local developments relating to safeguarding.
- Following any denominational or organisational guidelines in relation to safeguarding children and adults in need of protection.
- Supporting the safeguarding co-ordinator/s in their work and in any action they may need to take in order to protect children/vulnerable adults.
- Ensuring that everyone agrees to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this organisation.
- Supporting parents and families

- Nurturing, protecting and safeguarding of children and young people
- Supporting, resourcing, training, monitoring and providing supervision to all those who undertake this work.
- Adopting and following the 'Safe and Secure' safeguarding standards developed by the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service.

We recognise:

- Children's Social Services (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a child. Adult Social Care (or equivalent) has lead responsibility for investigating all allegations or suspicions of abuse where there are concerns about a vulnerable adult.
- Where an allegation suggests that a criminal offence may have been committed then the police should be contacted as a matter of urgency.
- Where working outside of the UK, concerns will be reported to the appropriate agencies in the country in which we operate, and their procedures followed, and in addition we will report concerns to our agency's headquarters.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We will review this statement and our policy and procedures annually.

If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult then speak to one of the following who have been approved as safeguarding co-ordinators for this organisation.

Mr Christopher Snook - Safeguarding Coordinator

Mrs Deborah Snook - Deputy Safeguarding Coordinator

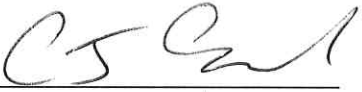
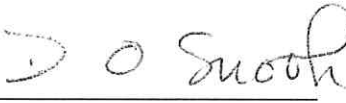
A copy of the full policy and procedures is available from:

ROMI, 27 Fairfield Avenue, Fareham, PO14 1EB

heavensgates@realityoutreach.org.uk

A copy of our safeguarding policy has been lodged with ROMI Trustees

Signed by Chris Snook – Deborah Snook

Signed  
 Date 09/03/2023