DISTRICT 5240 – YOUTH PROTECTION COMMITTEE
Rotary & Non-Rotary Contacts in case of abuse or harassment
DISTRICT CONTACTS

Savi Bhim  
District Governor 2019-20  
2076 Riverbirch Drive  
Simi Valley, CA 93063  
Home/Cell: 805-285-6700  
E-mail: rotarysavi@gmail.com

Ronda Werner  
Youth Exchange Chair  
456 Valley Vista Drive  
Camarillo, CA 93010  
Home: 805-384-0240  
Business: 805-388-7002  
Cell: 805-259-8698  
E-mail: tshirts@roadrunner.com

Steve Gibbs  
Youth Protection Chair  
3704 Gaelic Ct., Bakersfield, CA 93311  
Cell: 661-496-0855  
E-mail: lawgibbs@pacbell.net

Pamela Elisheva  
Compliance Officer  
6640 Mandy Lane  
Bakersfield, CA 93308  
Cell: 661-487-7705  
E-mail: 7pamela@gmail.com

NON-ROTARY CONTACTS:  
Sikeli Jorgensen (male contact)  
Rotex 2017-18  
611 Libbey Ave, Ojai 93023  
Cell: 805-901-3213  
E-mail: hawkin611@gmail.com

Haley Hall (female contact)  
Rotex 2016-2017  
1713 Sunnydale  
Simi Valley, CA 93065  
Cell: 805-433-3776  
halessss21@gmail.com

LOCAL CONTACTS

Aaron Markovits (RC Bakersfield East)  
Student Protection Officer  
Rotary Groups 1,2,3
CRISIS HOTLINES & CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES
These numbers are for emergencies only
For routine problems, call your local Rotary Contacts first

If you are experiencing a medical emergency, are in danger, or are feeling suicidal, call 911 immediately

24-Hour Sexual Assault & Rape Crisis Hotlines:

Nation-wide Abuse Victim hotline: Safe Horizons: 1.800.621.HOPE (4673)
Nation-wide Rape & Sexual Assault Hotline: 212.227.3000
http://www.safehorizon.org/page/rape--sexual-assault-54.html?gclid=CMK05aSSoL8CFQiUfgod_DQAWw

24 Hour Toll Free Rotary YES/SCANEX Emergency Contact Number: 800-5STJOHN

National Hotlines for other services:

- National Drug & Alcohol Treatment Hotline: 1-800-662-HELP
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233
- National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4-A-CHILD
- National Youth Crisis Hotline: 1-800-HIT-HOME
- National Adolescent Suicide Hotline: 1-800-621-4000
- Depression and Bipolar Support 800-273-TALK (8255), Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, http://www.dbsalliance.org
- National Runaway Hotline: 1-800-621-4000
- Panic Disorder Information Hotline: 1-800- 64-PANIC
- NEDA National Eating Disorders (800) 931-2237 http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/information-referral-helpline
- National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline – loveisrespect (866) 331-9474 Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, http://www.loveisrespect.org
1. Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth

District 5240 is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, Rotarians’ spouses, partners, and/or any other volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of children and young people with whom they come into contact. It is each person’s responsibility to be familiar with the entire Rotary District 5240 Youth Policy, the Reporting Guidelines, Affidavits, Host Applications, and all reporting forms. Each person who will work with Youth in any capacity must complete and sign the Rotary District 5240 Youth Volunteer Affidavit and Waiver. A copy of these documents is at the end of this Policy.

2. Definitions

**Volunteer:** Any adult involved with Rotary Youth Exchange activities that has direct interaction with students, either supervised or unsupervised. This includes, but is not limited to, club and District Youth Exchange Officers and committee members, Rotarian Counselors, Rotarians and non-Rotarians, their spouses and partners that host students for activities or outings, host parents, and other adult residents of the host home (including siblings and other family members).

**Student:** Youth involved with Rotary Youth Exchange, regardless of whether they are of the age of majority.

**Sexual abuse:** Sexual abuse refers to engaging in implicit or explicit sexual acts with a student, or forcing or encouraging a student to engage in implicit or explicit sexual acts, alone or with another person of any age of the same sex or the opposite sex. Additional examples of sexual abuse could include, but are not limited to:
- Non-touching offenses
- Indecent exposure
- Exposing a student to sexual or pornographic material

**Sexual harassment:** Sexual harassment refers to sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. In some cases, sexual harassment precedes sexual abuse and is a technique used by sexual predators to desensitize or “groom” their victims. Examples of sexual harassment could include, but are not limited to:
- Sexual advances
- Sexual epithets, jokes, written or oral references to sexual conduct, gossip regarding one’s sex life, and comments about an individual’s sexual activity, deficiencies, or prowess
- Verbal abuse of a sexual nature
- Displaying sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or drawings
- Sexual leering or whistling, any inappropriate physical contact, such as brushing or touching, obscene language or gestures, and suggestive or insulting comments

Please refer to the Rotary District 5240 Reporting Guidelines for definitions and clarifications.

3. Volunteer Selection and Screening

The following screening steps must be completed prior to participation in Youth Exchange activities.

District 5240 will maintain all records of criminal background checks, waivers, and screening for adults working with minors until the criminal offense Statute of Limitations runs out from the date of the record’s creation. If it is deemed more practical, these records may then be archived and made available upon request to authorized parties acting on behalf of the District or Rotary International by the company that is responsible for the background checks.

All volunteers interested in participating in the District 5240 Youth Exchange program must:

- Complete a Youth Volunteer Affidavit form and authorize the District to conduct a criminal background check (_subsides to local laws and practices._)