

### ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

The Miami Beach Parks and Recreation is committed to a safe and fun filled environment, free from harassment, intimidation or bullying, for all of our participants and staff regardless of race, color, ethnicity, religion, disability, age, gender identity or sexual orientation. We are working very hard in making all Miami Beach facilities a Bully Free Zone. The City of Miami Beach enforces a zero tolerance policy on bullying of any form. We encourage our patrons and participants to report any type of bullying they may experience, hear or see occurring in our Recreation facilities.

#### **What is Bullying?**

Bullying can be best defined as the intentional abuse, harassment and/or intimidation of others. Bullying can emotionally, socially, mentally or physically harm child or adult. It is always an intentional act. The person who bullies wants to harm the victim; it is no accident. Bullying is typically characterized by repeat occurrences but it can be a single incident.

#### **Types of Bullying:**

Bullying ranges from simple one-on-one bullying to more severe bullying in which the bully recruits others that join in the bullying activities. Bullying can take many forms including: slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendo's, demeaning comments, drawing cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats, social media posts or other written, oral or physical actions.

- Verbal Bullying can include but is not limited to: teasing, name calling, inappropriate comments, taunting and threatening to cause harm.
- Social Bullying involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships, leaving someone out on purpose, telling other children not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors about someone, embarrassing someone in public.
- Physical Bullying involves hurting a person's body or possessions. Physical bullying includes: hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, hair pulling, mean or rude hand gestures, damage to someone's property, theft.
- Cyber or Electronic Bullying involves using technology to threaten, hurt, single out, embarrass, spread rumors, and/or reveal secrets about others. Cyber bullying can be done through phone calls, text messages, pictures/video clips, email, instant messaging, chat rooms, websites, social media platforms and gaming.

### ANTI-BULLYING BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT

It is the goal of the City of Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department to make all their facilities a "Bully Free Zone. " In order to do that we must work together in helping to make all participants regardless of race,

To request this material in accessible format, sign language interpreters, information on access for persons with disabilities, and/or any accommodations to review any document or participate in any city-sponsored proceeding, please contact 305-604-2489 (voice) or 305-673-7218 (TTY) five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Services).

(White copy: office, Yellow copy: parent/guardian)

# MIAMI BEACH

## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

color, ethnicity, religion, disability, age gender identity or sexual orientation feel safe and confident to speak up when confronted by a bully or when they witness another being bullied. This agreement is not intended to prohibit the expression of one's feelings or thoughts, but instead to prevent their expression from rising to the level of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

Please take a moment to review the following agreement with your child. Signing the bottom of this agreement signifies that both you and your child agrees to the City of Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department's anti-bullying policy. This form must be returned to your child's Recreation site.

- I will try my best to keep a positive attitude and to treat others with respect.
- I will help create an environment that is safe and welcoming for all of us.
- I understand that any of my actions that results in the abuse, harassment, or intimidation of others will be considered bullying.

**Verbal bullying** can include but is not limited to: teasing, name calling, inappropriate comments, taunting and threatening to cause harm.

**Social bullying** involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships, leaving someone out on purpose, telling other children not to be friends with someone, spreading rumors about someone, embarrassing someone in public.

**Physical bullying** involves hurting a person's body or possessions. This includes: hitting, kicking, pinching, spitting, tripping, pushing, hair pulling, mean or rude hand gestures, damage to someone's property, theft.

**Cyber or electronic bullying** involves using technology and the internet to threaten, hurt, single out, embarrass, spread rumors, and/or reveal secrets about others. Cyber bullying can involve varying forms of technology: social media platforms, mobile phone calls, text messages, pictures/video clips, email, instant messaging, chat rooms, websites, gaming.

- I will use appropriate and respectful language and understand that the use of deliberate negative, hurtful, or profane language will not be accepted.
- I will be respectful of the property and personal space of others.
- I will not possess any illegal drugs, alcohol or weapons of any kind while participating in Miami Beach Parks and Recreation programs or activities.

**By signing below, I am stating that I have read and agree to abide by all policies stated above. Any child suspected of bullying will be disciplined on an individual basis. Depending on the severity of the bullying disciplinary action may include time out, loss of privileges including field trips, suspension and/or expulsion. Refunds will not be issued for any participant who is suspended or expelled.**

**I certify that I have discussed all the above policies with my child.**

---

Print Parent/Guardian Name

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

---

Date

---

Print Child's Name

---

Signature (Juniors, Pre-Teens & Teens only)

---

Date

**BULLY FREE PLEDGE**

### Take the Pledge:

- I promise to never bully anyone.
- I promise to not take part in any actions that purposely hurt another person.
- I promise to speak up when I see bullying.
- I will reach out to others who are bullied.
- I will be a friend whenever I see bullying.
- I will join with friends and stand up to bullying.

