

Community Engaged Learning Safety Guidelines

All of our community partner sites are safe and welcoming settings. That being said, being aware of your personal safety is very important. Here are a few important things to remember: be aware of your surroundings, let other people know where you will be at all times, know where you can access a phone if you do not carry a cell phone (or should your cell phone fail), don't bring unnecessary valuables with you, and keep your personal possessions with you or in a safe place at the site (do not leave valuables in a car).

Boundaries...

- Even if asked, don't give a client a ride in a personal vehicle.
- Never give or loan clients money or other personal belongings.
- Do not share personal contact information (home/cell phone number, address, personal email address, etc.) with clients or other non-Bethel volunteers.
- Do not tolerate talk or behavior of a sexual nature on site, whether from clients, other volunteers, or your supervisor(s). If you feel harassed, leave the situation and tell your supervisor, instructor, or the Executive Director of the Center for Community Engaged Learning or the Center's Program Coordinator, as appropriate.
- Do not engage in any type of business with clients during the term of your service.
- Do not enter into a personal relationship with a client during the term of your service, including "friending" him/her on Facebook or other social networking sites.

If Something Happens On-Site or in the Neighborhood of Your Community Service Site...

- If an incident occurs while you are on-site or in the area of your service site, OR if you are injured or made to feel unsafe while performing your volunteer service, contact your agency supervisor, your instructor, and/or the Executive Director of the Center for Community Engaged Learning, Dr. Claudia May, or the Center's Program Coordinator (as appropriate) to discuss what actions the agency and school should take to ensure your physical and emotional well-being.

On the street...

- Tell someone whom you trust where you are going and when you will return.
- Walk with a friend whenever possible: research indicates that two people walking together are 70% less likely to be the victims of street crime.
- Stay alert and tuned in to your surroundings.
- Walk in well-lighted areas, avoiding alleys.
- Do not listen to earphones or "walk & text" while out alone, this minimizes your ability to notice an approaching threat and also advertises to a would-be thief that you have a desirable item to attempt to steal.

For additional resources please visit: [Public Safety Videos](https://www.bethel.edu/safety-security/safety/public-safety-videos)
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