

Child Safeguarding Policy

1. Introduction and Principles

The Hungarian Society of Prevention and Lifestyle Medicine (HSPLM) is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of every child and young person participating in our activities. We recognize our responsibility to prevent abuse, harm, and harassment of children, and strive to create a safe, inclusive environment where every child is respected and heard. This policy describes how we prevent child abuse and support child wellbeing in all our programs and activities.

2. Scope and Applicability

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, contractors, board members, and partners who may come into contact with children through HSPLM's programmes, events, or communications, whether in person or online.

3. Legal and Policy Framework

Our policy is based on international conventions, Hungarian law, and European Union standards-including the Keeping Children Safe Child Safeguarding Standards. We are committed to upholding children's rights as defined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The HSPLM Board holds overall responsibility for child safeguarding.

- A designated Child Safeguarding Officer is responsible for policy implementation, guidance, and managing reports.
- The Child Safeguarding Officer always holds a valid criminal record certificate issued by the authorities.
- All staff, volunteers, and partners must comply with this policy and report any child safeguarding concerns.

Cím: 2721 Pilis, Eperfa utca 1. **E-mail:** info@eletmodorvostan.hu www.eletmodorvostan.hu



5. Safe Recruitment and Vetting

HSPLM is committed to appropriately checking the reliability and suitability of all staff and volunteers working with children. In accordance with legal requirements and our capabilities, we seek references and apply other child protection vetting steps as possible. We also ensure all staff and volunteers are familiar with the core principles and procedures of this policy, and, where possible, offer child safeguarding training.

6. Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers

All HSPLM representatives must:

- Treat every child with respect and dignity, regardless of gender, ethnicity, ability, or background.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries and avoid any behaviour that could be interpreted as exploitative or abusive.
- Never use physical punishment, emotional abuse, or any form of sexual misconduct.
- Avoid being alone with a child in a private setting whenever possible; adhere to the "two adult rule" during activities.
- Always use appropriate language and behaviour, including in digital communications.

7. Child Participation and Information

We are committed to informing children of their rights, this safeguarding policy, and the available complaint procedures. Children are encouraged to express their views and will be listened to with respect.

8. Reporting and Response Procedures

- Any suspicion or report of child abuse, harm, or harassment must be reported immediately to the Child Safeguarding Officer.
- Reports can be made confidentially and without fear of reprisal.
- All reports are taken seriously and acted upon promptly, following a clear process for investigation and response.
- Where appropriate, concerns will be reported to the relevant authorities in accordance with legal obligations.

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9. Monitoring, Review, and Continuous Improvement

This policy is reviewed annually, or after any incident or legislative change. Feedback from staff, children, and stakeholders is incorporated for continuous improvement.

10. Contact Information

For any questions or to report a concern, please contact:

HSPLM Child Safeguarding Officer

Hungarian Society of Prevention and Lifestyle Medicine

Website: www.eletmodorvostan.hu Email: info@eletmodorvostan.hu

President: Dr. Klára Koncz

11. Policy Accessibility

This policy is publicly available on our website.

Date of last review: 26 April 2025

Approved by: Board of the Hungarian Society of Prevention and Lifestyle Medicine

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