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The A-Teens Program is a Youth Development Program designed for middle school girls in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The goal of the A-Teens program is to empower young women to make good choices, feel self-confident, and enhance self-worth.

The philosophy of the A-Teen Program is to provide a quality program that meets the needs and interests of young women.

Girls involved in the A-Teens Program will have the opportunity to participate in three major areas:

1. **A-Teens After-School Programs**

The program focuses on issues and topics of interest to girls at the middle-school grade level. The program will include informative activities and discussions, guest speakers, special classes, artistic and creative opportunities.

2. **Service**

Girls in the program gain an understanding and addressing the needs of others in the community through outreach and involvement in a variety of related activities.

3. **Social Events**

Sharing fun times and developing lasting friendships through participation in planned social events.

Membership in the Alliance for Women & Children A-Teen Program is \$15.00 per school year (September-May). This membership fee entitles you to enjoy and participate in all the activities and programs organized by the A-Teen Director and Staff.

**Full Scholarships are available.**

The program will be held in your middle school from 3:30-5:30 p.m. one day a week.

Snacks and drinks are provided.

Questions? Please call Fawn Grissett, **A-Teens Director** at **(325) 677-5321**

It is the goal of the A-Teens program to provide a fun and safe environment. In order to do this we must have established guidelines of behavior. Please read the following with your A-Teen and sign the acknowledgement section on the last page of your registration packet.

## **A-Teens Policy Statement**

1. After school is dismissed, A-Teen members should go directly to the A-Teens program.
2. The A-Teens Program will begin promptly at 3:30 p.m. If you are going to be late, please bring a note signed by a teacher, principal, or parent.
3. The A-Teen Program will end promptly at 5:30 p.m. Each member should be picked up at this time. Due to Alliance for Women & Children policies, A-Teens staff are unable to provide transportation home – this is under any circumstance. Therefore, if a parent or guardian is unable to pick up his/her daughter at 5:30 p.m., arrangements should be made for her to be picked up by someone else. It is imperative that we adhere to these time guidelines. We appreciate your cooperation in this area.
4. Each A-Teen will be expected to stay for the entire A-Teens meeting unless she has a note explaining her reason for leaving early.
5. Each girl who is considering joining A-Teens will be given TWO free visits to participate in the after school program. If you decide to join A-Teens, the \$15.00 membership fee will be due at the next meeting. **(Full Scholarships are available, ask for a scholarship form).**
6. The Alliance for Women & Children is NOT responsible for lost or stolen items.
7. If your daughter is not present at A-Teens you will NOT be contacted. We assume they are with a parent/guardian. A-Teens is not responsible for any girls' absence.

## **Expected Behavior**

1. Be respectful of A-Teen staff and other members.
2. Be respectful of school property and other A-Teens' belongings.
3. Do not engage in fighting, name-calling, or use of offensive language with staff or other members.
4. **Regular Attendance.** After three unexcused absences the student will not be able to return to A-Teens. An absence is excused when the student has been absent from school or has a note from the parent/guardian stating that the A-Teen had another commitment.
5. Each A-Teen is expected to report to A-Teens directly after school. If the A-Teen needs to stay after school she must have a note from her teacher. Two unexcused tardies will result in an unexcused absence from the program.

## **Discipline Plan**

1. A member of the A-Teen staff will speak privately with the A-Teen about the behavior.
2. Depending on the offense the A-Teen may be asked by the A-Teens staff not to participate in the day's activities and a behavior report will be sent home with the A-Teen. This report must be returned at the next A-Teens meeting. A A-Teen may not return until the signed behavior report is returned.
3. If the behavior is repeated weekly, a parent/guardian will be contacted.
4. If the behavior persists, a conference will be held between the A-Teen Director, Parent/guardian, and the A-Teen.
5. Further discipline problems will result in the removal of the teen from the program.
6. A-Teens staff have the discretion to send any A-Teen home for the day if the A-Teen disrupts the A-Teen meeting in any serious way.

**Thank you for taking the time to read these policies with your A-Teen.**