



## **Predator Awareness Task Force**

### Instructor Guidelines

Thank you for your personal interest in promoting safety, through education, for people with disabilities. We hope this collection of Safety Training Curricula will prove not only to be easily accessible to you as a trainer, but also informative and educational for the students and/or clients with which you work.

These materials are designed in such a way to allow you as the trainer to present valuable information, and also to encourage and facilitate group participation. It is our belief that group participation through discussion of shared experiences and role-plays provides for a powerful learning environment. With this being said, it is important to caution you as a trainer that the subject matter may elicit conversation and personal disclosure that may leave a student or client vulnerable.

Confidentiality is essential when allowing for self-disclosure. Confidentiality should be discussed prior to each lesson. The expectation of, and agreement that, each person will respect and maintain the confidentiality of the group, should be clearly stated (with the exception of laws defining mandated reporting). Generally, what is said in the group is not to be repeated or discussed at any other time or place. It is also important that the trainer protect a student/client from divulging more personal information than is appropriate for the setting. This can be done by politely interrupting the participant and telling them you would like to talk more with them individually about the situation after the lesson. This can help to preserve everyone's privacy and dignity.

These safety topics can trigger memories of past experiences that students/clients may feel the need to discuss privately. It is a good idea, when you are able to do so, to allow time after the lesson for these conversations should they be necessary, or be prepared to make referrals to appropriate resources. On the following page you will also find a list of community resources should your student/client need additional support.

Once again, thank you for your interest in the Safety Training Curricula. If you have any questions, comments, concerns and/or requests please contact one of the following PATF members:

- ***Dana Zapanta, 707-922-1142, dzapanta@scoe.org***
- ***Sybil Halloran, 707-992-0823, sybil.halloran@cirinc.org***