

Screening Volunteers

Screening: The screening of all staff and volunteers who might be alone with youth or children is an important way to help keep kids safe. It is the recommendation of the Board of the Synod LYO that all adults, who are designated congregational youth leaders, complete criminal/child abuse clearance checks through the State Police. The criminal record check form can be found at <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dps/dci/crimhist.htm>. It is also recommended that adult youth leaders be checked against the Iowa Sex Offender Registry which can be found at <http://www.iowasexoffenders.com>. We suggest that the congregation keep these records on file. All information received is confidential and should never be shared with others in the congregation or synod. A person needs to submit these forms only once, as long as their membership remains in the same congregation. There are much more complete background checks that are also available. The ELCA web page www.elca.org/backgroundchecks offers this information. Many ELCA organizations are obtaining background checks. Two background check companies, ChoicePoint and Oxford Document Management Company (Oxford), are offering ELCA organizations and institutions reduced fees for their services:

ChoicePoint

As a preferred vendor, ChoicePoint ([more information](#)) is waiving any set-up or initiation fees. ChoicePoint also offers a 10% discount on all [screening services provided](#) to ELCA synods, congregations, and affiliated organization customers. To obtain the discount, go to ChoicePoint's ScreenNow [Employment Subscriber Application and Service Agreement](#).

Oxford

As a preferred vendor, Oxford ([more information](#)) also offers a 10% discount on all [screening services provided](#) to synods, congregations, and affiliated organization customers. Oxford never charges set-up or initiation fees. To obtain the discount, call Oxford at 1-800-801-9114