

**Section II: Service Policies**

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**TITLE: Unattended Children Policy****DATE ADOPTED: April 9, 2007****REVISED: January 2013; REVISED: November 11, 2013**

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Lake Villa District Library staff is committed to helping children with activities related to the library. Staff cannot assume responsibility for the care, supervision, teaching or entertainment of children using the Library. Parents or a caregiver of high school age or older are responsible for the needs and behavior of their children who are in the Library.

The Library has no legal restrictions on who can use the building. Therefore, the Library cannot guarantee the safety of children.

Children younger than ten (10) years old must be chaperoned at all times by a parent or other-caregiver of high school age or older. When the safety of an unattended child is in doubt, or the parent or caregiver cannot be located, staff members are authorized to call the police and stay with the child until the police arrive.

Children younger than seven (7) years old must be directly and closely supervised by a parent or other caregiver of high school age or older. The Library does provide programs that are suitable for attendance by children over the age of six (6) and less than the age of ten (10) that do not require direct parental supervision. During such programs the parent or caregiver is expected to be present in the Library building.

Children age ten (10) or older may use the Library unattended by an adult, subject to other Library rules and policies concerning behavior and conduct.

While the Library does not assume responsibility for children here at closing, at least two staff members will wait up to 15 minutes for a parent or caregiver to arrive. Attempts will be made during that 15 minutes to reach a parent or caregiver, but in no instance will staff take minors home. If a caregiver cannot be reached, or cannot arrive within the given time, the police will be called.