

Safeguarding risk assessment

Ensuring safe events and activities

Purpose

The Brave Movement Survivor Safeguarding Risk Analysis tool (the “**Tool**”) assists the Brave Movement and other stakeholders with the critical process of identifying, evaluating, and responding to safeguarding risks.

Audience

The Brave Movement Action Team (MAT), Brave Platforms, organizational Brave Members, partner organizations, and other groups engaging survivors of childhood violence.

How to use this tool¹

Once the risk analysis is complete, organizations must take the necessary steps to (i) implement necessary safeguarding measures based on the results of the analysis and (ii) establish and effectively communicate their safeguarding measures.

¹ ****While this tool provides example recommendations for safeguarding measures, organizations are encouraged to engage safeguarding experts to fully develop and implement the policies and procedures appropriate to their context.***

1. Safeguarding Mission Statement

The Brave Movement (“**Brave**”) seeks to create a global environment in which survivors of childhood violence and their allies are safeguarded and empowered in their advocacy. Brave takes all actions possible to ensure the legal, mental, emotional, and physical health of those it engages through rigorous adherence to ethical standards, trauma-informed best practices, and local regulations. All Brave staff, consultants, and partner contacts adhere to safeguarding principles and strive to prevent, report, and respond to potential safeguarding risks.

Brave’s global advocacy movement elevates the voices of survivors, providing unwavering support and fostering awareness to inspire positive change. Together, we are building a movement that respects, protects, and uplifts those with the lived experience of childhood violence, ensuring a future where every survivor is heard and valued.

2. Disclaimers

2.1 Brave recognizes the term “survivor” to refer to individuals who have publicly disclosed their lived experience of childhood violence. Brave also recognizes that many individuals with this lived experience do not publicly disclose and that there are many allies without this lived experience who wish to support. As such, Brave recognizes the term “ally” to refer to all individuals who have not publicly disclosed to ensure the movement is open for full participation.

2.2 Brave recognizes that while its advocacy efforts are limited to the subject of childhood sexual violence, there are many aligned organizations that may advocate for other forms of childhood violence and neglect, as well as sexual violence perpetrated against adults. This Tool is solely focused on assessing risks related to the safeguarding of survivors.

2.3 Brave recognizes that while it does not permit advocacy efforts involving children (i.e. under 18 years of age), it may work with other organizations who do contact or engage with children. As such, Brave recognizes that it is critical to ensure proper child safeguarding measures are in place at any activity in which partner organizations may be involving children, regardless of Brave’s degree of separation.

3. Commitments to Safeguarding

The Brave Movement makes the following commitments to advance the need for proper safeguarding in its operations and in the operations of its Platforms, Members, and partner organizations.

3.1 Brave commits to prevent and address all forms of abuse, exploitation, and harm committed by staff, volunteers, consultants, and/or partners involved in the movement’s advocacy efforts.

This Tool is aligned with and connected to Brave's other foundational policies as an active safeguarding measure.

3.2 Brave commits to a cohesive approach to safeguarding across all organizational and movement activities. This Tool is jointly developed and managed by Brave's Director of Movement-Building and Director of Human Resources in an effort to address safeguarding risks both within the organization and externally with the movement's activities and partnerships.

3.3 Brave commits to take all appropriate and practical actions to prevent, report, and respond to potential safeguarding risks. This Tool is an effective resource to integrate safeguarding measures throughout organizational and movement activities.

3.4 Brave commits to zero-tolerance for inaction in response to potential safeguarding risks. This Tool is a required part of organizational and movement procedures, and its use is highly encouraged for partners and allied organizations.

3.5 Brave commits to a trauma-informed and survivor-centered approach to advocacy, ensuring that safeguarding measures are integrated into all organizational and movement activities. Brave committed to place both public survivors and those who have not publicly disclosed at the center of our efforts and to ensure that all individuals are empowered to raise safeguarding concerns and informed about how to do so.

4. Recommended Policies & Procedures

This safeguarding risk assessment is intended for advocacy activities and events, particularly those involving survivors of childhood violence.

Regardless of survivor involvement, however, all organizations should have the following policies and procedures to ensure compliance with legal standards and to protect survivors:

Organizational Policies and Procedures

- Data Protection Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Child Safeguarding Policy
- Code of Conduct
- Background Checks/Screening
- Mandated Reporting Policy
- Policy on Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment

Trainings for Staff, Volunteers, and Personnel

- Cultural Sensitivity
- Trauma-Informed Practices
- Survivor Safeguarding and Engagement

Risk Assessment

The 4-step process

STEP 1: Determine Survivor Involvement

Begin by evaluating the level of survivor engagement for the activity or event. Refer to the categories defined in Step 1 to determine whether the engagement is Low, Medium, or High.

STEP 2: Evaluate Safeguarding Measures

Review the safeguarding measures currently in place using Step 2. This will help determine if the activity's safeguarding risk is Low, Medium, or High based on existing protocols and support systems.

STEP 3: Analyze Overall Risk

Use the table below to cross-reference the Survivor Engagement Level (top axis) with the Safeguarding Risk Level (left axis). Locate the corresponding cell to identify the overall risk profile and recommended action steps for the activity.

STEP 4: Implement Recommended Actions

Follow the action guidelines in the table for the assessed risk level. For moderate to high-risk scenarios, ensure that comprehensive safeguarding measures are in place and consider involving trained safeguarding professionals.

STEP 1

Determine Level of Survivor Involvement

Indicators of Survivor Engagement			
Select all statements that apply to the activity or event.			
☐	Survivors are part of the audience.		
☐	Survivors are speaking at the event (keynote or on a panel).		
☐	Survivors are sharing their personal experiences/stories.		
☐	Survivors will be engaging with the media and/or interviewed.		
☐	Audience/participants will have direct engagement with survivors (e.g., Q&A).		
☐	Survivors are involved in planning or leading the activity.		
☐	There is a component of the activity that requires survivor feedback or input.		
☐	The activity is unstructured, allowing networking with survivors.		
☐	The primary aim is to support, advocate for, or raise awareness about survivor issues.		
☐	Specific survivor groups have been invited to attend.		
Tally your answers to determine the level of involvement.			
	Involvement Level	Description	Total
☐	Low Involvement	There is minimal, if any, involvement of survivors in the activity.	0 - 1
☐	Moderate Involvement	Survivors are present but not publicly disclosing personal experiences.	2 - 3
☐	High Involvement	Significant survivor involvement, potentially including public disclosure of lived experiences.	4+

STEP 2

Evaluate Safeguarding Measures for Activities or Events

Safeguarding Measures	
Select all statements that apply to the activity or event.	
Mental health support is available and accessible before, during, and after the event.	
Trigger/content warnings are provided.	
Survivors are informed of potential risks (e.g., compromised anonymity, retraumatization).	
The venue is in a safe area and secure.	
A designated self-care space is provided for survivors to decompress.	
Staff are trained on mandatory reporting obligations and handling disclosures.	
Trauma-informed practices are part of staff training.	
Crisis intervention-trained personnel are on-site.	
Clear roles and responsibilities are outlined for staff.	
An internal incident reporting policy is in place.	
Pre-event briefings and preparedness training are provided (e.g., for media engagement).	
Dedicated support staff are available.	
Designated mental health professionals are present.	
Self-care resources and emergency hotlines are accessible.	
Opportunities for post-event debriefing are provided.	
Feedback mechanisms are established for monitoring and evaluation.	
Food, transport, and/or lodging accommodations are safely arranged and communicated.	
Agenda includes breaks and is effectively shared in advance.	
Survivors are informed about the event's itinerary and expectations.	
Survivor input is part of event planning and design.	

Safeguarding Measures (cont'd)			
Tally answers to assess the robustness of safeguarding practices.			
	Risk Level	Description	Total
	Low Risk	<u>Strong safeguarding measures in place.</u> Basic safety protocols are in place, and there is an awareness of trauma-informed practices among staff. The event or activity does not pose significant risks to survivors, and standard safeguarding procedures are effective.	17+
	Moderate Risk	<u>Meets standards but needs improvement.</u> While basic protocols are in place, there is a greater need for proactive measures to address potential challenges and ensure the safety and well-being of survivors. It is crucial to communicate clear expectations and provide resources to help manage potential distress.	11 - 16
	High Risk	<u>Significant gaps in safeguarding.</u> Organizations must implement robust protocols, including crisis intervention teams, thorough training for staff, and ongoing support resources for survivors. It is highly recommended to engage external experts to review and enhance safeguarding practices related to safety and well-being of participants.	0 - 10

STEP 3

Overall Risk Assessment Table

Use the risk assessment table to cross-reference the Survivor Engagement Level (top axis) with the Safeguarding Risk Level (left axis). Locate the corresponding cell to identify the overall risk profile and recommended action steps for the activity.

For moderate to high-risk scenarios, ensure that comprehensive safeguarding measures are in place and consider involving trained safeguarding professionals.

It is strongly recommended to consult with safeguarding experts or trauma-informed practitioners for any activity with Medium or High levels of survivor engagement, especially if the overall risk profile is Moderate-High or High.

- **Low Risk (Green):** Basic safeguarding measures are generally adequate. Review protocols, but no major adjustments are necessary.
- **Moderate Risk (Yellow):** Strengthen safeguards with designated mental health support, trauma-informed staff, and participant feedback options. Incorporate additional safeguarding practices as necessary.
- **Moderate-High Risk (Orange):** High engagement with survivors requires robust mental health support and crisis intervention training.
- **High Risk (Red):** Comprehensive safeguarding is critical. Include on-site mental health professionals, structured debriefs, and clear survivor withdrawal options.

		Survivor Engagement		
		Low Involvement	Moderate Involvement	High Involvement
Safeguarding Risks	Low Risk	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	Moderate Risk
	Moderate Risk	Moderate Risk	Moderate Risk	Moderate-High Risk
	High Risk	Moderate Risk	Moderate-High Risk	High Risk

Safeguarding Recommendations by Risk Level

	Low Risk	Moderate Risk Build on “Low Risk”	Moderate-High Risk Build on “Moderate Risk”	High Risk build on “Moderate-High Risk”
Pre Event	- Identify designated safeguarding lead. - Develop a basic safeguarding checklist for the event. - Ensure team awareness of safeguarding roles. - Communicate that survivors can withhold consent. - Brief survivors on expected questions.	- Conduct pre-event safeguarding training for staff/volunteers. - Create a customized safeguarding plan for the event. - Engage stakeholders to identify specific risks. - Develop clear signage for reporting. - Introduce participants to safeguarding leads.	- Designate self-care spaces for decompression. - Perform detailed safeguarding risk analysis for all activities and spaces. - Formalize methods for vetting staff, vendors, and external stakeholders. - Establish a code of conduct specific to the event.	- Co-create safeguarding measures with participants and key stakeholders. - Use advanced technology to identify and address risks in real-time. - Develop a sustainability model to improve future safeguarding.
During the Event	- Ensure contact details of safeguarding lead are available to all. - Conduct regular staff and volunteer check-ins to reinforce safeguarding practices. - Provide a simple and visible incident reporting process.	- Have a safeguarding response team on-site. - Implement clear incident-reporting guidance. - Monitor high-risk areas for issues. - Include self-care breaks in the agenda	- Designate self-care spaces. - Utilize digital tools for anonymous incident reporting. - Run daily staff safeguarding debriefs to discuss risks. - Provide on-site mental health support services.	- Host safeguarding awareness sessions for participants. - Implement digital risk monitoring for both online and offline event elements. - Establish multi-agency collaboration on safeguarding responses.
Post Event	- Gather post-event feedback on safeguarding issues. - Review incidents and update policies as needed. - Share lessons learned with staff.	- Conduct a safeguarding debrief with relevant stakeholders. - Create feedback mechanisms for survivors. - Provide post-event support for survivors.	Include safeguarding performance in full post-event evaluations.	

Signature, Name, and Date

To ensure due diligence, this Risk Assessment must be reviewed and approved by a minimum of two (2) organizational representatives.

Organizational Representative #1

Name

Date Signed

Signature

Organizational Representative #2

Name

Date Signed

Signature

Organizational Representative #3 (optional)

Name

Date Signed

Signature