

## **Roles and Responsibilities of Designated Safeguarding Leads**

Rise is a program that finds promising young people and provides them with opportunities that allow them to work together to serve others over their lifetimes.

An initiative of Schmidt Futures and the Rhodes Trust, Rise is the anchor program of a \$1 billion commitment from Eric and Wendy Schmidt to find and support global talent.

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) are responsible for reviewing and ensuring that safeguarding processes and procedures are upheld within an organization. Rise DSLs promote the safety and welfare of Rise participants at all times.

DSLs are also responsible for receiving all safeguarding reports.

To ensure there is always a DSL available to Rise participants, Rise has several DSLs who you can contact. Their contact information is provided below.

DSLs are appropriately trained so that they can carry out their responsibilities. This is done in partnership with organizations globally, so DSLs are aware of referral procedures in different countries. This training is also regularly refreshed in order to reflect changes within safeguarding and child protection legislation and processes.

Please note that it is not the DSL's responsibility to decide if a child has experienced harm or neglect. Rather, a DSL's role is to conduct inquiries as necessary and proportional to the concern raised; they are guided by the advice of statutory agencies, as appropriate.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of the Rise DSLs**

A Rise DSL performs the following duties:

- Reviews safeguarding policies and processes to ensure that they are in line with relevant local laws and international safeguarding processes.
- Ensures policies and processes are updated annually at a minimum, and more frequently if necessary (e.g., in response to concerns or allegations, as appropriate, or in response to legislative changes).
- Stays abreast of safeguarding updates and legislation.
- Receives and clarifies any safeguarding reports and follows outlined procedures to ensure reports are appropriately handled internally or by responsible local entities such as the police, local authority, or social services.
- Manages any safeguarding incidents and escalates as necessary to the authorities and/or the Rise Programme Joint Committee (PJC).

- Securely maintains and manages a log of any safeguarding reports within the organization in line with data protection and safeguarding policies.
- Ensures all Rise representatives within the program understand the importance of safeguarding, mental health, and emotional well-being, and are trained suitably for their role.
- Ensure that all Rise representatives receive appropriate safeguarding training at a level and regularity that is commensurate with their roles for Rise, and which is responsive to legislative and/or best practice updates and to any incidents.
- Ensures all Rise representatives are sufficiently and appropriately background checked, including criminal checks where possible, ahead of any interactions with Rise participants.
- Maintains and advertises a simple-yet-effective reporting process for disclosures of concerns or allegations, ensuring in particular that Rise participants and their parents/guardians know who they can contact if they have any safeguarding concerns and what steps will be taken in response to those concerns.
- Liaises frequently with DSLs in Rise partner organizations to ensure they maintain an aligned approach to safeguarding and child protection in accordance with local laws.
- In collaboration with relevant partner organizations, is aware of who or what agency is responsible for child protection within the locality of Rise participants.
- Liaises as required with the PJC on any safeguarding reports that may pose reputational risk or that are of significant proportions, meaning the information must be officially reported to the relevant organizations.

### **Contact the Rise DSLs**

If you ever feel unsafe or uncomfortable in a Rise environment, you can contact the Rise DSLs at [safeguarding@risefortheworld.org](mailto:safeguarding@risefortheworld.org). The following Rise team members serve as DSLs:

- Muloongo Muchelemba, Director, Selection
- Kathryn Segesser, Manager, Winner Support
- Eiko Tsukamoto, Senior Manager, Student Experience