



March 26, 2025

In light of recent events, affecting our school and the broader community we serve; we want to take a moment to address the actions and policies that Guadalupe Center takes to fulfil our commitment to the safety and well-being of everyone who is part of the Guadalupe Center family. We understand that these times can bring uncertainty and concern, and we want to assure you that we are taking appropriate steps to ensure that both our staff and students remain safe.

At Guadalupe Center, the safety of our community is our top priority. We have implemented the following measures to maintain a secure environment:

1. **Thorough Hiring and Background Checking Process:** Before we initially hire any individual, we complete an extensive background check, which includes comprehensive reference verification and criminal history screening. As part of this check, all applicants' fingerprints are run through an FBI database to ensure the highest standards of safety and trust. 100% percent of our current staff has completed this background check, regardless of when they were hired.
2. **Thorough Background Checks for Volunteers:** All individuals who volunteer to work with children at Guadalupe Center also are required to complete the same in depth background check prior to being allowed to start service. 100% of volunteers who work with children have successfully completed this thorough background check.
3. **On-Going Criminal Monitoring:** Guadalupe also partners with the State of Utah to access the FBI's Rap Back Service. This service sends us an automated notification if there are changes in the criminal history record of anyone enrolled in the system from within our organization, whether as an employee or volunteer. If an alert is received, we take immediate and appropriate action to assess any potential risk to our community.
4. **Internet Safety:** We take strict, proactive steps to ensure that inappropriate and/or illegal content cannot be accessed on school devices or our network. We operate an organizational wide content filtering system that does not allow access to inappropriate content and is designed to flag any instance where an individual attempts to do so. This ensures that our staff and students are only able to access safe, educational, and appropriate online resources.
5. **Enhanced Security Protocols:** We have strengthened our security measures, including enhanced monitoring of visitor protocols, regular monitoring of the premises, increased presence of security personnel, and advanced surveillance systems.
6. **Bullet-Resistant Glass:** To enhance physical security, bullet-resistant glass has been installed in all first-floor windows and doors, further ensuring the safety of our staff, students, and visitors.
7. **Exterior Fencing:** The exterior fencing has been replaced to limit the visibility of students who are outdoors, providing an added layer of privacy and security.
8. **Staff Training:** All of our staff members are regularly trained in safety protocols, emergency response procedures, and crisis management to respond swiftly and effectively to any situation that may arise.
9. **Student Awareness Programs:** We continue to educate our students on the importance of safety, emergency responses, and how to stay aware of their surroundings, ensuring they are equipped to handle any potential risks.

10. **Open Communication:** We maintain transparent, two way communication with students, parents, guardians, and community members, encouraging them to report any concerns or unusual activity. Your input is valuable to us, and we work together as a community to maintain a safe environment.
11. **Strong Collaboration with Local Authorities:** We have strengthened our relationships with local law enforcement and emergency services to ensure a coordinated and prompt response if needed.

We are deeply committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and secure environment for everyone who walks through our doors, and we will continue to monitor potential safety concerns closely and adapt our measures as needed.

We thank you for your continued trust and support. Together, we can make sure that Guadalupe Center remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Pater', written in a cursive style.

Richard Pater
Executive Director
Guadalupe Center