

Keeping Faith

Empowering faith communities to recognize and respond to child abuse & neglect

The Samaritan Women is hosting Zero Abuse Project's *Keeping Faith* event to prepare members of your faith community to recognize and respond to child sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect. The intended audience for this event is faith leaders, parents, youth volunteers, counselors, and any other members of the community who may work with children. We invite you to join us for this important training. Topics include:

- The spiritual impact of child abuse
- Child abuse prevention
- Best practices in responding to child abuse
- Understanding child sexual behaviors
- Responding to an allegation of child abuse within a congregation
- Managing a sex offender within the congregation

Speaker:

Victor Vieth, Director of Education & Research,
Zero Abuse Project

Date:

Saturday, October 17, 2020
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location:

Virtual Zoom Meeting
You will receive the Zoom access link 1-2 days
after completing the registration form

Registration Fee:

\$25 (non-member)

For members of The Shepherd Project,
please contact Jasmyne Cummings for your
waived registration fee

Register online at:

thesamaritanwomen.org/keeping-faith



Keeping Faith is a cutting edge course which has empowered faith leaders throughout the country to implement child protection policies, to work collaboratively with medical and mental health professionals, and to address the spiritual needs of children and families impacted by abuse. I strongly encourage faith leaders to take this training."

- Boz Tchividjian
Executive Director, GRACE

For more information

Contact Jasmyne Cummings at
jcumings@thesamaritanwomen.org

Virtual Saturday Agenda

Keeping Faith: Empowering faith communities to recognize and respond to child abuse & neglect

8:00-8:45am **Welcome and Introductions**

8:45-10:30am **When Faith Hurts: Recognizing and responding to the physical, emotional, and spiritual impact of child abuse (Part 1).** This workshop begins with an overview of the teachings of Jesus on child abuse and then reviews research on how maltreatment impacts a child physically, emotionally and spiritually. Case examples of how offenders use religion in the abuse of children will also be presented. Attendees will receive concrete information on recognizing signs that a child has been physically abused, sexually abused, or neglected.

10:30-10:40 **Break**

10:40-12:00 **When Faith Hurts: Recognizing and responding to the physical, emotional, and spiritual impact of child abuse (Part 2).**

12:00-1:00 **Lunch**

1:00-2:15 **Policies and pastoral care.** Attendees will learn best practices for church policies to prevent abuse and, when it can't be prevented, to respond with excellence. Policies for managing a convicted sex offender in the congregation will also be discussed. A primer on pastoral care for both survivors and offenders will be presented.

2:15-2:25 **Break**

2:25-3:55 **Responding to allegations of child abuse within a congregation.** In this interactive presentation, students will be presented with a case of child sexual abuse arising within a congregation. Working as small groups, students will discuss the various challenges resulting from the case and develop a plan for an appropriate response to the needs of the victim, offender, and community. (10 min Intro, 30 min small groups, 50 min discussion)

3:55-4:00 **Wrap Up**

Please note that this conference addresses the issue of child abuse in concrete terms. This includes case studies of child abuse which may be emotionally impactful. If you are concerned about the content and the possibility this may trigger painful memories, please speak to a counselor or pastor in advance of the conference and practice self-care during the workshops.