

# *Tri-County Faith Community Alliance Against Domestic Violence*

*“A Network of Safe Access Points for Victims of Domestic Violence”*

## Organizational Structure for the “Tri-County Faith Community Alliance Against Domestic Violence”

### Article One:

#### Name, Purpose and Location

- 1:1 This Network shall be known as the “Tri-County Faith Community Alliance Against Domestic Violence”
- 1:2 Our community is committed to providing a safe place for victims of domestic violence and to a consistent, responsible response to their safety and needs. This may mean referring the victim to the appropriate resources, providing sustenance and resources to meet the needs of the victim, and participation in a community forum that will put the needs of the victim first.
- 1:3 The Network initially will be organized under the “Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence” at the Ninth Circuit Solicitor’s Office.
- 1:4 The Network will work to bring faith communities in the Tri-county area to the table.
- 1:5 The Network will provide training opportunities through the website and other means to help faith communities provide a responsible response to victims of domestic violence.
- 1:6 The Network will establish standards for member faith communities to protect the safety of victims.
- 1:7 The Network will establish confidentiality guidelines for the member faith communities and for victims of domestic violence.
- 1:8 The Network will provide specific responsibilities for faith communities when responding to victims of domestic violence.
- 1:9 The Network will develop activities for member faith communities that will demonstrate to the community that they are a safe place for victims to go.

Article Two:

Goals and Objectives

**2. Goal:** To provide a resource for faith communities in the Tri-county area so that they can respond in a consistent and responsible manner to instances of Domestic Violence.

Objectives

- 2.1. To provide responsible and appropriate referrals for Domestic Violence.
- 2.2 To maximize the safety of victims who seek assistance from faith leaders.
- 2.3 To educate faith leaders and congregations about the effects of Domestic Violence on adults.
- 2.4 To educate faith leaders and congregations about the effects of Domestic Violence on children.
- 2.5 To provide resources for faith communities to help them help victims of domestic violence in their communities. To assist in building the capacity of faith communities so they can develop their own consistent, responsible response to Domestic Violence.
- 2.6 To change attitudes about how faith communities view abuse and point out that there is more than one way to inflict abuse.
- 2.7 To help faith communities recognize the problem of abusive scriptural interpretations.
- 2.8 To make faith communities a CCRDV access point and a welcoming place for victims through training. Enable these communities with the education and skills needed to respond and refer victims of Domestic Violence. Create a network of access points.
- 2.9 To provide resources and information concerning the mandatory reporting of children who are victims/witnesses to Domestic Violence.

Article Three:

Membership

- 3:1 Any organization identifying themselves as a faith community may be a member of the Network. Membership organizations must comply with the administrative and organizational requirements to maintain their membership.
- 3:2 Affiliate memberships may be allowed for those agencies that want to provide resources to victims but may not fully comply with the mandate of a full member agency.

3:3 Donations may be requested to assist victims with basic needs.

3:4 Criteria for membership shall be established by the Governing Committee.

Article Four:

Governance

4:1 The Network shall be governed by a “Governing Committee” which shall consist of at least 7 members to include at least 4 different faith community representatives. The remaining members of the “Governing Committee” shall include members of the community representing “victim assistance agencies” as well as survivors of intimate partner violence.

4:2 The “Governing Committee” may add additional “Governing Committee” members as they deem necessary.

4:3 The “Governing Committee” shall meet at least bi-monthly at a place and time to be determined. Meetings shall be advertised to the full membership and shall be open to all members and the public.

4:4 Other committees shall be established as determined by the “Governing Committee.”

Article Five:

Executive Committee

5:1 The “Governing Committee” shall elect a President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer to each serve 1 year terms.

5:2 Nominations, elections and vacancies shall be further determined by a vote of the “Governing Committee.”