Academy of Servant Leaders

THE CHURCH OF GOD IN MICHIGAN
TRACK 1: MODULE 6

PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO ABUSE IN YOUR CHURCH

Saturday, February 1, 2025, 10:00am – 12:15pm
Zoom Webinar

Preventing and Responding to Abuse in Your Church

ABUSE IMPACTS A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN OUR CHURCHES. CHURCH LEADERS DO WELL TO PREPARE FOR THIS REALITY. THIS INTERACTIVE TRAINING WILL GIVE MINISTRY LEADERS ESSENTIAL TOOLS TO SHAPE A CULTURE WHERE THE POLICY AND TRAINING ON ABUSE ARE EFFECTIVE. THE TRAINING WILL EXPLORE:

- **How the Bible Speaks to Abuse**
- **Policies that are Actually Effective**
- **How to Educate the Congregation on Abuse**
- **How to Engage the Whole Community in Appropriate Prevention**
- **The Essential Role of Leaders in Prevention and Response**

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THIS TRAINING WILL INCLUDE Q & A AS WELL AS INTERACTION AROUND CONCRETE SCENARIOS TO CONSIDER BOTH PREVENTION AND RESPONSE BEST PRACTICES. GRACE WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. THIS TRAINING IS DESIGNED FOR ALL CHURCH LEADERS, INCLUDING PASTORS AND MINISTRY STAFF.

This training will be conducted by Mike Sloan. Mike is the Director of Safeguarding at GRACE. He is a former pastor, who has worked for 14 years to see reform on abuse policy and culture relating to abuse within churches. Mike helped develop and now leads GRACE's Safeguarding Initiative, which is focused on changing culture on abuse within churches on all forms of abuse.

As the leader of GRACE's Safeguarding Team, Mike and his colleagues train faith-based leaders and congregations in abuse education, dynamics of abuse within faith communities, and best practices in prevention and response. Mike consults with churches on policies, conducting written reviews and developing new policies in cooperation with organizations.

Mike also consults regularly with faith-based organizations on abuse response issues including reporting and trauma-informed care. GRACE has existed for 20 years as a Christian non-profit ministry with a mission to educate and empower churches to recognize, prevent, and respond to abuse.

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