



SAFE CHURCH ENROLLMENT FORM
SAFE CHURCH CLUSTER STARTING January 27, 2018

Please review the Safe Church Project Scope document before completing this!

Part 1: About your Church

Name and address of Church:

Website:

Office phone:

Phone contact:

Office email:

Email contact:

Name of Lead or Senior Pastor:

Name of person completing this application if other Lead or Senior Pastor:

Phone contact:

Email Contact:

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- 1. What is your average weekend attendance at worship service(s)?
2. Approximately how many children age 12 and under are involved regularly in your church?
3. Approximately how many youth age 13-18 are involved regularly in your church?
4. Do you run a summer camp or Bible School program at your church?
5. Does your church host a day care center?
6. Does your church have a Child & Youth Protection Policy?
7. Does your church have a standing committee or group that is responsible for training, policy revision, and suspected child abuse reporting/response?
8. Does it include specifics about how to report suspected abuse under PA law?
9. Does it include screening requirements for staff?
- FBI fingerprint
- Criminal Record Check
- Child Abuse History Certification

10. Does it include screening requirements for volunteers working with children? Yes  No  If yes, what is required?  Criminal Record Check  Child Abuse History Certification  FBI fingerprint (if not a resident of PA for the last 10 years)
11. Does the policy require that all those working with children receive a standardized training? Yes  No
12. Are there any provisions for annual refresher training? Yes  No
13. Does the policy include information about under what conditions that church would permit a known sexual offender to participate in worship or some other aspect of the congregation's life? Yes  No
14. Does your church offer education for parents and others on how to protect children from sexual abuse?  
Yes  No  If yes – how often? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Does your church offer Christian education curriculums for children and teens on how to protect themselves from inappropriate contact? Yes  No  If yes – how often? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Part 2: The Covenant

By signing this letter, we express our desire to participate in the “Safe Church” project with Samaritan Counseling Center beginning January 27, 2018 and ending July of 2018 . We agree to abide by the commitments noted below and will faithfully complete the project to the best of our ability.

We understand that we will be expected to pay for the services provided by Samaritan, which may be paid in two installments. The charge is \$200 for churches with an average attendance of less than 100, \$400 for churches with an average attendance between 100-350, and \$600 for churches with an average attendance of more than 350. Some assistance with the fee may be available if your church is unable to afford it. Samaritan Partner churches may use vouchers worth \$100 each to pay a portion of the fee. Child abuse certifications for staff and volunteers (i. e. background checks) are required as part of this process (and in some states, including PA, by law); we understand our church (or, those required to be certified) will pay the fees for these certifications if they are not already on file with us.

We also understand that the policy template and appendix forms provided by Samaritan Safe Church are provided only for use by churches participating in Samaritan Safe Church. Other use is prohibited without written permission by Samaritan Counseling Center, Lancaster, PA.

### We agree to:

1. Form a Safe Church team of three or more people and insure that at least three team members attend each cluster meeting. (A substitute may be designated if a member cannot attend.)
2. Our team will work in between cluster meetings to develop policy segments as instructed in cluster meetings, and to communicate with our congregation about the Project, including using resources to raise awareness.
3. As part of our policy, we will stipulate the formation of a standing Child Protection Committee to insure policy is followed, and education and training is ongoing; we will include the guidelines under PA Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) for mandated reporting of suspected child abuse, we will incorporate a “two adult” rule for volunteers and staff working with children and youth; and we will include a section on how our church will deal with a known sexual offender that desires to participate in our congregation.

4. We will present a working draft of the policy to our governing board for affirmation and feedback and present a final draft for approval.
5. We will promote and set up 2 one-hour congregational "Safe Church" educational sessions during the program. Samaritan Counseling Center will provide these presentations on site at each church.
6. Submit or obtain screening certification forms (i. e. background checks) for all staff and volunteers working with children (if we don't already have these on file) as required by state law.
7. Require all staff and volunteers working with children to attend the four hour training on mandated reporting that is part of this project.
8. Publicize and promote the survivors retreat in our congregation encouraging survivors to attend to help create worship resources to raise awareness in the faith communities
9. Commit to implementing a two to four week curriculum on child abuse prevention, such as "Circle of Grace" in our Christian Educational program for grades K-12.
10. Share the final policy approved by the church governing body with Samaritan Counseling Center.

Signed by:

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Governing Board or Leadership Team Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Samaritan Counseling Center  
 Attention: Deb Helt, Senior Safe Church Facilitator  
 1803 Oregon Pike  
 Lancaster PA 17601

ENROLLMENT FORM MUST BE RECEIVED AND APPROVED PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CLUSTER.

- Confirmation of enrollment will be sent via e-mail. Upon notification of enrollment you will be invoiced for the fee which may be paid in two installments if desired. The fee is \$200 for churches with an average attendance of less than 100, \$400 for churches with an average attendance between 100-350, and \$600 for churches with an average attendance of more than 350. Samaritan Partner churches may use vouchers worth \$100 each for part of the fee. If you cannot afford the full fee, please let us know at the time of your enrollment so we can seek funding support.
- The first core team meeting will be on Saturday, January 27, 2018. You will receive a full project schedule with all of the training dates with your confirmation of enrollment.

12/07/17