



S A F E   H A V E N S

**Interfaith  
Partnership  
Against  
Domestic  
Violence**



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

Interfaith Chaplaincy in  
Federally Funded Settings



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

Your PFJCI is a federally funded setting.  
This means that:

- ✿ You cannot establish any particular faith as normative.
- ✿ You cannot prevent anyone from exercising their faith.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

So . . . .



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

## Guidelines for PFJCI Chaplaincy Services:

No religious symbols of any kind that are specific to a particular denomination or faith can be displayed on the walls in the PFJCI.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

## Guidelines for PFJCI Chaplaincy Services:

PFJCI Chaplaincy volunteers may discuss faith-based or religious issues with a client only when invited to do so by the client, and only so long as the client leads the conversation.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

In rare instances, PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy volunteers may be asked to pray with a client.

This must be handled with the utmost sensitivity to the client's needs.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

Because they are inherently religious activities, prayer and discussion of faith-based and religious issues must occur in a time or place that is separate from other PFJCI services, and must only occur at the request of the client.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

All PFJCI Chaplaincy Services  
are client centered.

Chaplains may not initiate a discussion with a  
client regarding the chaplain's faith.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

If the client asks the chaplain about the chaplain's own beliefs, the chaplain may answer briefly.



## PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

If the client wishes to know more, the chaplain should offer to meet with the client after the client has received other PFJCI services or in a room that is separate from all other PFJCI services.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

All sessions between a PFJCI Chaplaincy Services volunteer and a PFJCI client should be respectful of and centered on the client's needs, traditions, cultural understandings, and/or faith.



## PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

After the session, when appropriate, the PFJCI Chaplaincy volunteer may refer the client to a faith-based resource outside the PFJCI who has been trained in domestic violence.



## PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

The volunteer could frame the referral like this:

“I’m not a member of your faith, but I can refer you to someone right here in the community who is a member of your own faith tradition and who has been trained in domestic violence. S/he will be able to help you to further explore the faith concerns that you have raised here today.”



## PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

Faith community leaders who are on the referral list should have already received training from PFJCI staff about how to respond safely and appropriately to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services should develop a diverse, trained, and reliable community referral list.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services may also have faith-based resources (brochures, business cards) available for distribution to clients who are interested in referrals to area faith communities. These resources should reflect the diversity of the community.



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

## Additional Boundaries to Respect

- Don't take on other social service roles
- Don't take on other legal roles
- Don't speak for the PFJCI
- Don't act independently of the PFJCI
- Don't talk to the press
- Don't wear PFJCI ID outside service area



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

## Additional Boundaries to Respect

- Don't intrude on clients or families unless requested or referred
- Don't make promises you cannot keep
- Don't take on unusual or complicated situations without referring to your supervisor



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

Questions and Discussion



# PFJCI Interfaith Chaplaincy Services

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