



interfaith partnership against domestic violence
because no one should have to choose between faith and safety

Preventing Relationship Violence: A Muslim Response

Safe Havens is proud and excited to be collaborating with the Islamic Center of Boston and the Islamic Center of New England to present a wonderful training opportunity on Saturday, March 26 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The training, titled *Preventing Relationship Violence: A Muslim Response*, will provide the Islamic model for achieving healthy relationships and preventing abusive ones. The presenters are Salma Elkadi Abugideiri, LPC, Co-Director of the Peaceful Families Project, and Imam Mohamed Magid, current President of the Islamic Society of North America and Executive Director of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) Center, which serves Muslims throughout the greater Washington DC area.

This opportunity to learn from and engage with these two national experts will take place at the Islamic Center of Boston, located at 126 Boston Post Road, Wayland, MA. This event is open to the public, and pre-registration is required. The registration fee of \$20.00 will include lunch.

To register, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/icbsafehavens>.

For more information, please click this link to our website:

<http://interfaithpartners.org/ICB.pdf>

Safe Havens will also be sponsoring a program in collaboration with the Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center of Boston on Friday, March 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center, 100 Malcolm X Blvd., Roxbury, MA. Ms. Abugideiri will be presenting at this workshop, which will focus primarily on the Muslim community. This program is also open to the public. For more information about this program, please contact Safe Havens at 617-654-1820 or email us at info@interfaithpartners.org.

To learn more about the wonderful work of the Peaceful Families Project, please check out their website at <http://peacefulfamilies.org/>.



Safe
Havens

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On the Local Front....

We were thrilled to work recently with the good folks at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church in Acton. Safe Havens presented nine hours of training to over 25 participants from three Acton-area congregations. The trainings covered the basics of domestic violence, understanding abusers, and response strategies.

Many thanks to the Domestic Violence Services Network, REACH, Voices against Violence, The DV program at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, the Acton Police Department, and the Acton Community Resources Department whose participation in the Action training says, "**We want to partner with faith communities to intervene and prevent domestic violence.**"

Safe Havens thanks David Adams, co-director of EMERGE and Safe Havens Board member, who shared his expertise on abusers, and Dr. Nancy Nienhuis, Dean of Students and VP for Strategic Initiatives at Andover Newton Theological School and Safe Havens Board member, for her training skills. Many thanks also to St. Matthew's for their dedication to educating their community.

In the Spotlight



Thank you so for all your end of year donations. This year's campaign was the most successful ever! Donations more than doubled from last year!!!

All donations to Safe Havens are used to provide outreach, training, and education to faith communities in Greater Boston. If you are interested in learning more, please contact us at 617-654-1818 or amkatzman@interfaithpartners.org.

If you are still interested in donating—it's not too late (actually, it is NEVER too late)! You can donate via our website at <http://interfaithpartners.org/donate.html> or by sending Safe Havens a check to 101 Arch Street, 11th Floor, Boston, MA 02110. And thank you in advance for your much needed support!

Where Faith and Safety Meet: Faith Communities Respond to Elder Abuse

After almost three years of really hard work, we are thrilled to introduce to you our brand new resource, called *Where Faith and Safety Meet: Faith Communities Respond to Elder Abuse*. This resource is an Elder Abuse and Faith Toolkit, containing helpful information for both advocates and faith community leaders.

When older Americans are abused, they turn first to family, friends, and their faith communities for help. So, faith community members and leaders are a critical part of the safety net that older Americans need when they are seeking safety from abuse, exploitation, and neglect.

Where Faith and Safety Meet is currently being distributed nationally. You can see and download the resources from the Safe Havens website at <http://interfaithpartners.org/elderhome.html>. Or, call us for a copy at 617-654-1820.

Here are a few things folks have said about *Where Faith and Safety Meet*.

- "Excellent, amazing toolkit, really well put together."
- "I have received a copy of *Where Faith and Safety Meet* and I am very impressed. Congratulations on creating this important and lovely resource!"
- "I received your resources packet and I just have to say WOW!!!!!! What a fantastic job you all did. As I went through the information I actually got choked up. This is a wonderful resource and long overdue. We finally have a great tool to help us reach out to faith based organizations and they have a tool to help them understand and work with victims of elder abuse. My heartfelt thanks to all of you who obviously heard, loud and clear, what victims, service providers and clergy need to work together to end elder abuse. The packet is beautiful and the language is clear and easy to read and understand. You covered it all splendidly."

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FYI: April is
Sexual Assault
Awareness Month.

Many thanks to the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women, which funded the Elder Abuse and Faith project, and to the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL), which collaborated with Safe Havens to provide expertise on elder abuse and to make this happen. Many thanks also to the victims and survivors, advocates, and faith leaders who provided wisdom and guidance.

Interested in learning more about Safe Havens and our work? Please contact us or visit us at www.interfaithpartners.org.