

Is Your Congregation Ready for a Sex Offender?

Readiness Assessment

1. Does your congregation have an accountability plan for sex offenders?
2. Is there an oversight team to supervise, monitor, and/or chaperone a sex offender who is attending and participating in your congregational activities?
3. Is there one designated person who oversees all efforts to create safety and accountability within your congregation?
4. Does your congregation do criminal history background checks? Are they done for just the staff or also the volunteers and others with a leadership role.
5. Does your congregation have an education plan that informs everyone about policies on safety and accountability?
6. Does your congregation have an education program to inform everyone the procedures for reporting concerns or suspicious behaviors?
7. Does your congregation have an education program for staff and volunteers on how to handle a report of abuse?
8. Do children know who they can talk to if they are uncomfortable or concerned about a situation they are in or one that involves a friend?
9. Does your congregation have a documented list of expectations and guidelines for sex offenders who are part of your congregations?
10. Does your congregation have an education program that talks about grooming tactics and risk?
11. Does each sex offender who is part of your congregation have a safety plan that is specific to that offender?

If you answered no to any one of the questions, your congregation is not fully prepared to have sex offenders enter and participate in your congregation.