



*"Local Services, Global Reach"*

## ***Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence***

- • • because no one should have to choose between faith and safety***

# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## The Safe Havens Story

**1981**

“I’m the only one this has ever happened to.”

**1984**

“I turned the other cheek, and turned the other cheek, until I ran out of faces.”

**1991**

“No one should have to choose between faith and safety.”



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **The Safe Havens Story**

**1998**

“My mom told the pastor about my dad years ago, but the pastor didn’t help. I’m glad you do this work. Now maybe some other little girl won’t spend 8 years of her life being raped, like I did.”

Through our Greater Boston outreach and training programs, 60 diverse Christian, Jewish, and Muslim congregations have received in-depth training, and hundreds of faith leaders and congregations have received outreach, skills building, leadership development, resources, and technical assistance.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **The Safe Havens Story**

**2003**

Based on Safe Havens' hands-on work in local communities building bridges among congregations, law enforcement, and service providers, and our commitment to a coherent, community-wide response to domestic violence, Safe Havens was invited by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to provide Technical Assistance to 15 Chaplaincy Programs funded by the President's Family Justice Center Initiative.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **The Safe Havens Story**

**2003 – 2008**

**Technical Assistance to support FJC Chaplaincy Services**

Site Visits

Site Trainings

Convocations

Resource Development and Distribution

Telephone and Email Consultations and Support



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **The Safe Havens Story**

“Probably the best, most effective training I have ever attended. Presenters were extremely knowledgeable. Thank you! Appropriate and thorough handouts also.”

*-- participant at The Family Justice Center  
of Erie County training, July 22 – 23, 2008*



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **The Safe Havens Story**

### **The Next Chapter: 2009 and Beyond**

Safe Havens works with OVW-funded agencies to bridge the gaps between agencies, faith communities, and victims of Abuse in Later Life (ALL).

Local, hands-on work in Greater Boston Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities continues, with special attention to Brazilian, African-American, and Haitian communities.

FJC Chaplaincy Services resources continue to be available for the PFJCI sites as well as the many new Family Justice Centers that are part of the Family Justice Center Alliance.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **The Safe Havens Story**

Safe Havens is a small, grassroots nonprofit with a big mission: to empower FJC Chaplains, faith communities, and faith leaders through education, advocacy, technical assistance, and resources to respond compassionately, safely, and effectively to victims and survivors, to take part in a coherent, community-wide response, and to work for long-term social change to end domestic violence.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **Why is it important for an FJC to provide Chaplaincy Services and to work with local faith leaders?**

In 1998, Anne L. Horton and Judith A. Williamson stated in Abuse and Religion: When Praying Isn't Enough:

“More abuse victims, abusers, and family members go to faith leaders for help than all other helping professionals combined.”



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

Sometimes, faith leaders don't know how to respond safely and effectively to the crisis. They may encourage victims to return to the home or stay in the relationship when it isn't safe.

As a result, victims and their families sometimes are forced to choose between faith and safety.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

Many victims and survivors of domestic violence turn to their own faith communities for help. Sometimes, victims and survivors may also need Chaplaincy Services at their local Family Justice Center. For example, they may:

- have turned to their faith leader and not received help,
- not be part of any faith community, but feel the need for spiritual support during the domestic violence crisis, or
- not be able to turn to their own faith community for help because it is not safe for them to go there.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## Why are FJC Chaplains and faith leaders so important?

### For the victim or survivor:

- Faith is both resource and barrier for victim
- Faith community may be first place to turn for help
- Understandings of marriage, relationship, and gender roles deeply embedded in and negotiated within faith communities
- Faith may be used as a weapon by perpetrator
- Faith leaders can be a bridge to resources and referrals
- In refugee, immigrant, religious or ethnic minority, rural, and low-income communities, a local congregation may be the only or the only safe institution



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

**Why are FJC Chaplains and faith leaders so important?**

**For community prevention and education:**

- Faith leaders are perfectly placed to provide preventive education
  - Know families across generations
  - Welcome in homes
  - Educate young people
  - Involved in life events when violence may increase
  - Address issue with religious and moral authority
  - Can provide resources and referrals as needed



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

**Why are FJC Chaplains and faith leaders so important?**

**For long-term social change:**

- Faith leaders set moral tone for community
- Faith communities can be a source of volunteers and public support for FJCs and service providers
- Faith leaders can organize strengths and resources of community to tackle an important community issue
- Faith leaders may use their public voice to call for social change



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **Safe Havens' Technical Assistance for FJC Chaplaincy Services has focused on:**

- How to identify successful PFJCI Chaplaincy volunteers
- Protocols for Chaplaincy Services leaders and volunteers
- How to work within federal church/state guidelines
- How to develop a ministry of presence
- Spiritual care and faith resources
- How to reach out to local faith leaders and communities



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **“Chaplaincy Services: A Ministry of Presence”**

*(print document)*

Designed for screening potential Chaplaincy volunteers before the first training.

Presents question: “Is this the right volunteer opportunity for you?”

Special qualities of a successful FJC Chaplaincy volunteer.

Based on protocols for compassionate, safe, and effective response.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **“Manna in the Wilderness: Protocols for Providing PFJCI Chaplaincy Services to DV Survivors”**

*(Powerpoint)*

1. PFJCI Chaplaincy Services Are Victim-Centered
2. PFJCI Chaplaincy Services Are Welcoming to All
3. PFJCI Chaplaincy Services Are Non-Directive
4. PFJCI Chaplaincy Services Support the Survivor’s Right to Safety
5. PFJCI Chaplaincy Services Do Not Blame the Victim



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **“Interfaith Chaplaincy in Federally Funded Settings”**

*(Powerpoint)*

- You cannot establish any particular faith as normative.
- You cannot prevent anyone from exercising their faith.
- Guidelines to make sure that your Chaplaincy Services are voluntary, non-coercive, inclusive of all faith communities, and not exclusive of any particular faith.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **“Creating Open, Welcoming, and Safe Settings for a Ministry of Presence”**

*(Powerpoint)*

How to be fully present and welcoming.

Active listening.

How to hear and validate the story.

The connections among hearing, validating, and healing.

How to work in an interfaith setting.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **“Skills for the Desert Journey: Spiritual Care and Faith Resources”**

*(Powerpoint)*

How to help clients connect to their own spiritual resources.

How to validate the client’s right to and need for safety.

Referrals that work: how to refer to PFJCI and community resources.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **“Faith Community Outreach for PFJCI Chaplaincy Services Leaders”**

*(print document)*

How and why to build bridges with neighborhood faith communities  
and faith leaders.

Partnering with service providers to provide training to neighborhood  
faith communities and faith leaders.

Developing a coherent, community-wide response  
to domestic violence.

Building community support for your FJC.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

**These resources are available:**

1. through the Family Justice Center Alliance website at [www.familyjusticecenter.org](http://www.familyjusticecenter.org), or
2. by the end of December, through the new Safe Havens website at [www.interfaithpartners.org](http://www.interfaithpartners.org).



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **Who receives Safe Havens services?**

Between 2003 and 2008, Safe Havens was funded by the Office on Violence Against Women to work with the 15 original PFJCI sites. However, the resources that we developed may be useful to anyone who is developing Chaplaincy Services at a Family Justice Center or working on outreach to faith communities in a domestic violence service agency.

We encourage you to take a look, try it out, and call us with your questions, comments, and concerns.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## **How can I access services?**

At this time, Safe Havens is not funded to provide ongoing technical assistance, site visits, or onsite trainings. However, this may not always be the case. If you would like Safe Havens to work with your Family Justice Center Chaplaincy Program or domestic violence service provider, or if you just want to talk about faith community outreach, please contact Anne Marie Hunter at Safe Havens directly.



# Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence

## How can I contact Safe Havens?

Rev. Dr. Anne Marie Hunter

Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership  
Against Domestic Violence

101 Arch Street, 11th Floor

Boston, Massachusetts 02110

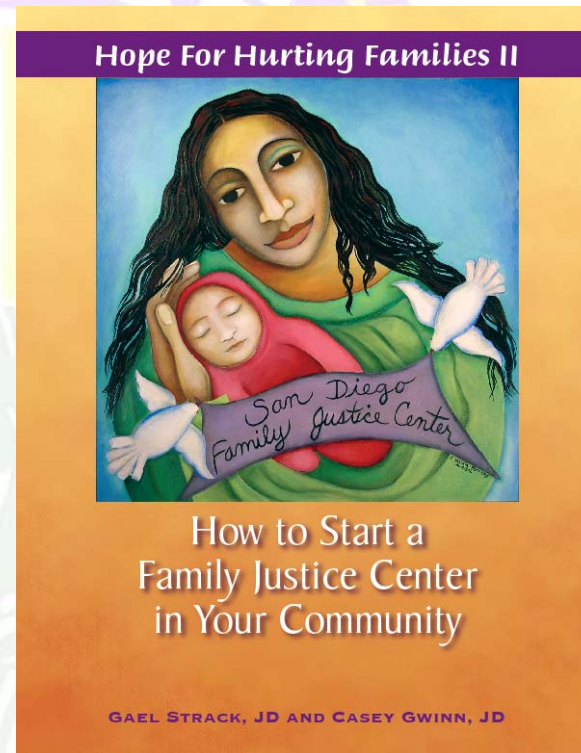
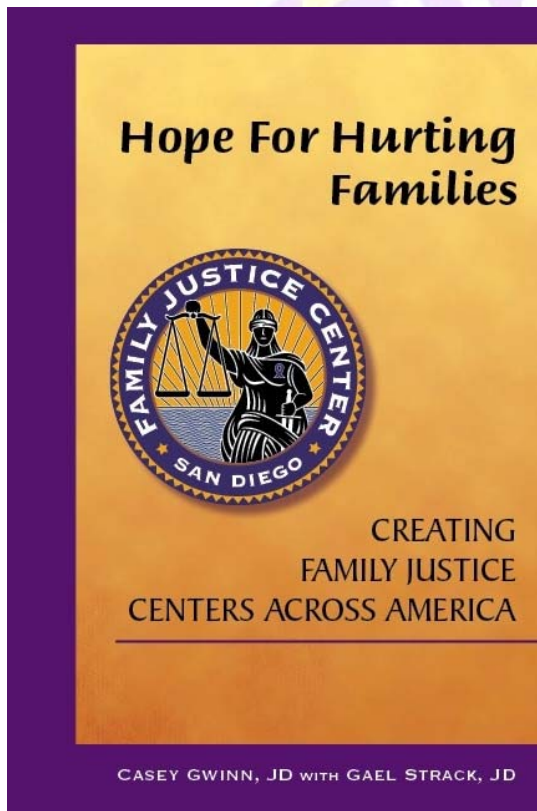
617-654-1821

[amhunter@interfaithpartners.org](mailto:amhunter@interfaithpartners.org)

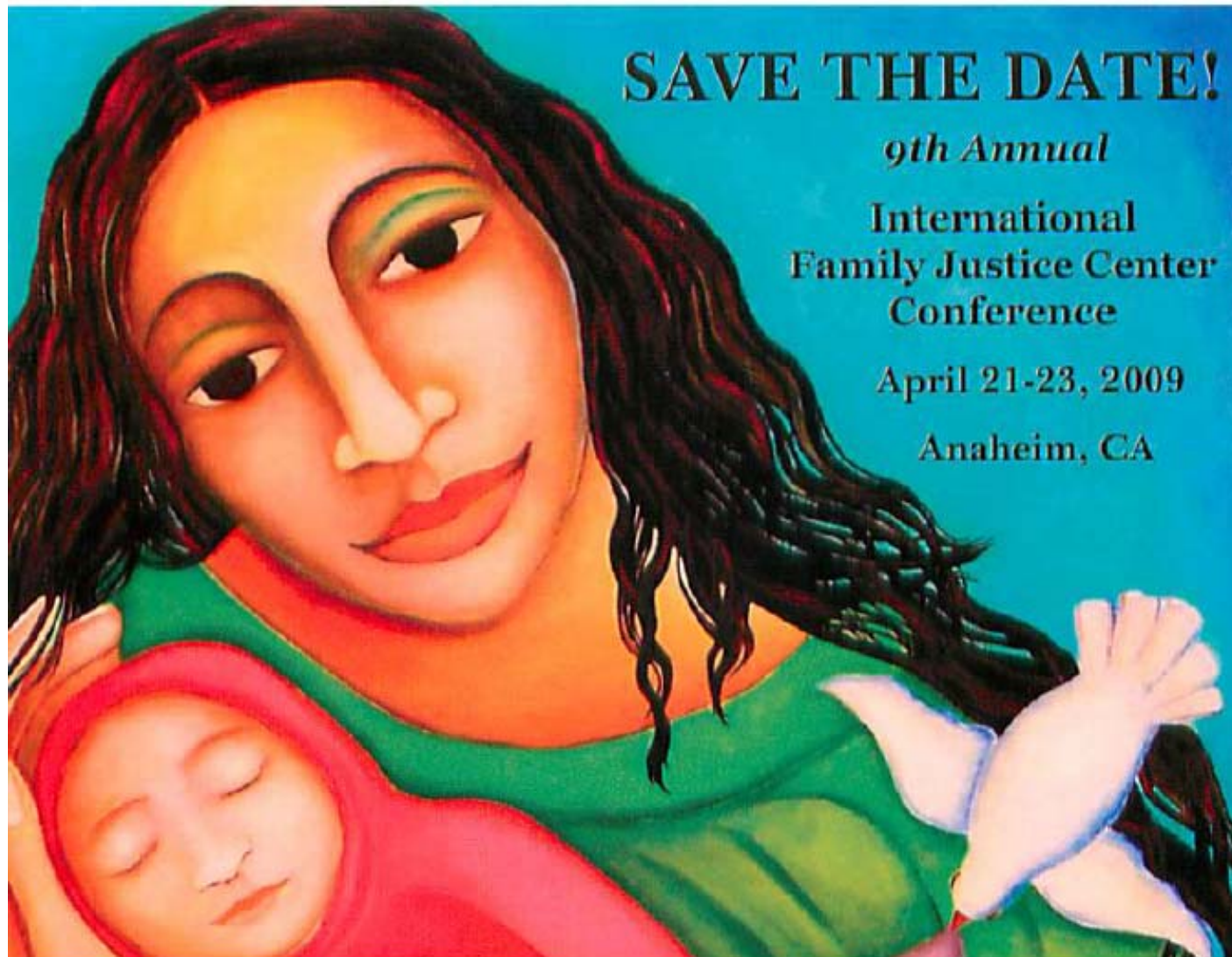
Watch for our new website: [www.interfaithpartners.org](http://www.interfaithpartners.org)



# Read the Books



# Attend our Next Conference





*"Local Services, Global Reach"*

# The End

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Against Domestic Violence

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