

Member Care Support Informed Consent

Welcome to the Metro District's Member Care ministry. This document contains important information about the intention of the Metro District Member Care ministry and your rights as an official worker in this relationship. We ask that you read this carefully and sign it as an acknowledgement that you understand the expectations and your rights in utilizing this ministry.

Member Care Conversations

This is NOT a professional counseling practice, but a spiritual care and pastoral coaching ministry for official workers of the Metropolitan District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. There are limitations of pastoral care conversations, and as such there may be times when the chaplain or coach will request the official worker to follow-up on a referral to a professional Christian counselor.

Most official workers will find an opportunity for honest conversation in a safe environment to be very helpful. You are free to remain in this relationship as long as it is helpful to you. You are free to discontinue this relationship at any time. We will be happy to offer you resources and referral assistance if your relationship with the chaplain or coach is not helpful.

Confidentiality

It is our hope that this relationship will create a safe environment for self-disclosure of personal issues and struggles. As much as possible, the chaplain or coach will maintain strict confidentiality. However, confidentiality is an increasingly complex issue. All sin has consequences, but not all sin requires formal disciplinary action at the District level. Some sin has civil consequences, and some sin initiates the discipline process outlined in sections E-8 of the C&MA Manual. There are situations in which the chaplain or coach is required to report. If this becomes necessary, the chaplain or coach will encourage the official worker to voluntarily disclose the behavior. The chaplain or coach will walk alongside the official worker in this process for as long as is permitted by our District's governing authorities.

The following are situations in which the chaplain or coach has a requirement to report:

1. If there is a reasonable cause to suspect you of child abuse or neglect.
2. If there is a reasonable cause to suspect you of the criminal abuse of an adult.

ACTS 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

3. If you communicate a threat of physical violence or harm against a reasonably identifiable third party or yourself and the chaplain or coach judges you to have the apparent intent and ability to carry out that threat.
4. If the official worker self-discloses behavior which would result in the initiation of the discipline and restoration process, as outlined in the C&MA Manual section E8.

Your signature on this document is your acknowledgment and agreement of the circumstances under which the chaplain or coach is required to report.

Appointments

Pastoral care conversations may take place in person, by video call or in a group setting. If you cannot keep an appointment for a member care conversation, please notify the chaplain or coach at least 24 hours before the appointment.

By signing below, you agree that you have read this agreement and consent to its terms. I further acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the contract with the chaplain or coach. I understand that I am free to withdraw my consent and discontinue this relationship at any time.

_____ Date _____
Official Worker Signature

_____ Date _____
Chaplain/Coach Signature

ACTS 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.