

The October 2006 Child Safety meetings concluded with the network of participants from 12 missions organizations in attendance affirming the following statement:

*As an outcome of the September 2006 Inter-Agency leadership consultation regarding issues of Child Safety and Abuse Response in missions, And in support of our common desire to provide a safe and rich experience for the children of our staff,
We are resolved to collaborate together in creative new ways to;
Develop and deliver common education and curriculum for the network
Share resources between us in the network
Develop common response and care protocols*

In addition participants concluded that a follow up meeting providing more in-depth training and inviting additional missions organizations within 6 months would be the next step toward these shared goals. **We are pleased to announce the dates and schedule for this meeting.**

Child Safety Network Meeting 2007 - (Location to be announced)

May 8, 2007 12:30-4:00 p.m.

This 1/2 day session is geared primarily for agencies that were not a part of the initial consultation session held Sept. 26-27th, 2006. The presenters will review the history of the initial meeting and briefly describe the talking points of those sessions, the action steps which were agreed on as a result of those meetings, as well as the agency collaboration/networking statement that was asked to be presented to each attending agency leadership.

May 9 8:00-4:00 p.m.

8:00-10:00 General Plenary Session I

This session will include introductions of each of the presenters and support staff. The joint session will be a time to review agency response to each of the action steps developed at the September 26-27th, 2006 meeting. The three action steps agreed upon were to collaborate in ways to; 1) Develop and deliver common education and curriculum for the network, 2) Share resources such as consultants and trainers within the agency network and 3) Develop and share common response and care protocols with in the network. An open forum will take place discussing how each individual agency has been able to move these action steps forward. The session will conclude with an open discussion on how to move the three action steps forward from here.

10:00-11:30 1.5 hour Concurrent Workshop I,

Session A -- Train the Trainer: This session is designed to provide training to those involved in child abuse prevention within the mission community. Some of the subjects to be covered in this session will be: Understanding the reality of abuse in church and missions settings, defining child abuse, red flags of the offender and victim, the four most effective tools of prevention, education of leadership and members within an agency.

Session B -- Abuse Awareness within the Mission Community: This session is designed especially for agency leadership to increase the awareness of child abuse within the mission community, discuss openly some individual agency abuse incidents, the costs of abuse to an agency, legal ramifications of abuse within an agency.

12:30-4:00 p.m. 3 hour Concurrent Workshop II

Session C -- Train the Parent and Child: This session will be an extension of Session A but will turn to how to train parents of children on how to identify abuse situations and protect their children from abuse.

Additionally, the session will cover how to train your children about abuse in a non-threatening manner.

Session D -- Agency response policies and protocols: This session will first review what policies and protocols should be in place to address child abuse allegations within an agency. The session will then turn into a working session to help agencies review their existing policies and protocols and to assist agencies that do not have policies in place develop a well round policy and protocol manual.

May 10 8:00-4:00 p.m.

8:00-11:30 Concurrent Workshop III

Session E -- Response care protocols, retreats, counseling: This session will give an overview of what agency protocols for response care should might look like. In addition, the session will cover follow-up care protocols such as victim retreats, counselor vetting and counselor networking.

Session F-- Interviewing Techniques: This session will include a discussion of how to conduct an abuse investigation, reporting requirements in the US and overseas setting and finally a role play/table top exercise in conducting the interview of both the victim and the alleged offender.

12:30-2:00 General Plenary Session II

This plenary session will include identifying again where to go from here with the 3 initial action points already identified. It will further include a joint discussion to attempt to identify additional action points for the network to pursue.

2:30-4:00p.m. General Plenary Session III

This plenary session will include a discussion of the need for future network meetings, invitation of other like agencies into the network, formation of committees to address identified topics of need, where to go from here to continue to build capacity in all of our agencies in this area of child safety.