

# Forming a DV Ministry

- Establish a committee.
- Choose a leader.
- Create a mission statement that tells what you want to accomplish. Consider how [Awareness–Services–Prevention](#) fits into your plans.

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- Meet regularly—at least twice a month to start.
- Recruit a cross section of skilled committee members based on your needs.
- Get help! Talk with parishes that have established a domestic violence ministry.

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- **Do your homework.** Consider these tasks:
  - Awareness and education outreach
  - Services and assistance to victims
  - Finding and connecting with resources such as shelters, counselors, and police...
  - Communication with the parish community
  - Prevention efforts

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- Get training for parish staff and committee members. At least one member should receive 40 hours' training.
- Decide how you are going to educate your parish community on domestic violence.
- Reach out to various ministries, especially those with lots of women. Victims will be there.

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- Establish a timeline and a budget.
- Develop a three-year plan.
- Make your pastor a partner and keep him informed every step of the way.

# Forming a DV Ministry Insurance

## Archdiocese of Chicago Insurance Program & Volunteers

The success of the many missions and programs within the Archdiocese of Chicago are largely dependent upon the continued generosity of talent and time by the thousands of lay volunteers. And nowhere, are the efforts of these volunteers more visible than within the Parishes. Thus it is important for our volunteers to be aware that the broad insurance programs of the Archdiocese of Chicago do indeed extend this protection to them, for their work in their volunteer roles.

The Archdiocese of Chicago insurance policies specifically define “assured” to include; “officials, members of boards or commissions, trustees, directors, officers, partners, volunteers, student teachers... while acting within the scope of their duties as such.”

Our insurers are obligated to pay those sums that we become legally obligated to pay because of a covered loss due to accident or negligence, including claim defense costs.

It is important to understand that **EXCLUDED** from insurance coverage are acts that are dishonest, fraudulent, criminal, malicious or intentional.

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# Forming a DV Ministry Software and Data Support

- The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) provides InfoNet, a web-based database that is used by many domestic violence programs in Illinois to collect and report data on their clients, services, and other activities. The database may be used at no charge as long as the data entry rules are followed. Client information is anonymous. For additional information, please contact Jennifer Hiselman at ICJIA, 312-793-8689.

# Forming a DV Ministry

## Let's review our objectives:

1. Summarize the steps in forming a DV ministry.
  - Establish a committee. Choose a leader. Recruit. Create a mission statement. Meet regularly. Get training. Educate. Develop a timeline and budget. Make your pastor a partner.
2. Recognize the need to recruit skilled committee members.
  - People are always the difference.
3. Recognize that establishing a realistic, actionable mission statement is a must.
  - Keep it simple, measureable, and doable.