10 Things You Can Do to Make Your Congregation a SAFE HAVEN for Those Experiencing Domestic Violence

1. Put up posters with domestic violence hotline numbers throughout your building. Print state and national hotline numbers in every program and/or newsletter.

2. Stock the library with culturally/religiously specific domestic violence information.

3. Get to know your community’s domestic violence resources and create a resource referral network. Refer, refer, refer.

4. Let members of your congregation know that domestic violence is an issue in your community (through sermons, newsletter articles, programming, etc.).

5. Let your congregants know that this is a safe place to discuss these issues.

6. Include domestic violence resources in pre-marital counseling.

7. Present information and resources on healthy relationships to teens.

8. Present age-appropriate anti-bullying information to children.

9. Partner with Safe Havens to conduct a used cell phone drive to support victims of abuse.

10. Contact Safe Havens (617-951-3980) for training, ideas, and resources.

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