For more information and to join our next meeting, please contact us.

Phone: 617-277-4194

e-mail: PartnersInFaith@uum.org

We look forward to partnering with you!

Partners in Faith
is an effort of Renewal House and the Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry

A gathering of social service providers, clergy, academics and people of faith united in working together to respond to those affected by domestic violence, abuse, and sexual assault from a faith and spirituality perspective.
Who We Are

Partners in Faith was born out of the desire to bring together individuals and organizations, faith communities and faith leaders, with a commitment to supporting individuals and families who experience sexual violence and/or domestic abuse.

During my first few years serving as Director of Renewal House, a domestic violence shelter and program of the UU Urban Ministry, I met many individuals who were working in faith-based organizations to address the needs of survivors of abuse. I also met many people in secular domestic violence/sexual assault programs seeking to build relationships between their organizations and the faith community. Although we all knew of each other, I realized that we were not connected.

As a minister, I yearned for a place where theology and practice could converge for practitioners and faith leaders committed to ending violence. Partners in Faith is that hoped-for place. Through bi-monthly gatherings focused on a variety of topics and programs, we provide the opportunity for all those interested in addressing domestic violence from a faith perspective to come together and share the journey of our work/ministry.

We hope you will consider joining us on this journey.

Rev. Susan B Chorley
Director, Renewal House

Resources for Faith Communities

SafeLink:
(877) 785-2020

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center:
(800) 841-8371

Renewal House:
(617) 566-6881

Hagar’s Sisters (Christian):
(978) 266-0053

Journey to Safety (Jewish):
(781) 647-5327

Jane Doe, Inc:
www.janedoe.org

SafeHavens:
www.interfaithpartners.org

FaithTrust Institute:
www.cpsdv.org

“Nobody talked about it. The thing is in the church I do remember seeing some women that would come to church with shades or a lot of make-up. You know something is going on but nobody’s talking about it.”

Did You Know...

✦ 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner. (National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 2011)

✦ In MA, 4,418 adolescents and adults are sexually assaulted each year, which averages to one every two hours. (Boston Area Rape Crisis Center)

✦ In MA, 1 in 10 high school students report experiencing sexual contact against their will. (2009 MA Youth Risk Behavior Survey)

✦ Religious involvement has been found to promote greater psychological well-being for survivors of domestic violence. (T.L. Gillum, C.M. Sullivan & D.I. Bybee, 2006)

✦ In a 2004 study of 41 clergy, only 37% percent of clergy counseling those involved with intimate partner violence referred them to community agencies providing domestic violence services. 57% of the clergy said they felt they lacked enough training effectively counsel people around domestic violence. (R.J. Rotunda et.al, 2004)