

CHURCH SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL



Our churches should be a place of safety and support for those facing all types of abuse.
This assessment tool helps identify areas for improvement to make your church safer and more effective.

1. AWARENESS

MINIMUM STANDARD: DEMONSTRATE AWARENESS OF THE PREVALENCE OF ABUSE.

Evidence may include:



Literature and resources about abuse prominently displayed



Local and national domestic violence (DV) helpline numbers posted in common areas and restrooms



Access to Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), AdSafe and Australian enditnow resources for staff and volunteers



Information about enditnow Australia is shared on church websites and social media

RESOURCES AND TRAINING:

For more information or to schedule abuse prevention training, visit www.adsafe.org.au or contact AdSafe

For further support and updates, connect with @enditnowAustralia.

2. SUPPORT

COMMITMENT STANDARD: SHOW DEDICATION TO SUPPORTING VICTIMS/SURVIVORS.

Evidence may include:



Helpline numbers and resources for abuse survivors easily accessible



Training for pastoral staff and church leaders on safe and meaningful support



Establishing and resourcing a 'Survivors Group' for ongoing support



Clear procedures for handling disclosures, including reporting to appropriate authorities and using the "Recognise, Respond, Record, Refer" framework



Awareness of both personal and church limitations in responding to abuse

Additional Evidence:



Ministries (children, youth, family, etc.) providing appropriate abuse prevention information and resources

3. ENGAGEMENT

ACTION STANDARD: COMMIT TO ADDRESSING ABUSE WITHIN THE CHURCH AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

Evidence may include:



Addressing all forms of abuse in sermons, small groups, and talks



Observing enditnow *Emphasis Day* (fourth Sabbath in August), with materials available at www.enditnowaustralia.org.au



Ensuring all staff and volunteers familiarise themselves with the information on the AdSafe website



Appointing an enditnow representative/team to maintain up-to-date resources and research local referral services



Including domestic abuse in safeguarding policies, with procedures reviewed annually and regular training offered



Safe handling of disclosures, with all allegations reported to relevant authorities



Ongoing abuse response training, with trainers approved by AdSafe