



## VICTIMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

“Where there is no guidance, a people falls,  
but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.”

**PROVERBS 11:14**

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

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**Aileen Cuthbertson**, Middle School Teacher and experience with Out of Darkness:  
aileen.cuthbertson@gmail.com

**Nancy Kirschner**, Trained Advocate for Victims of Domestic Abuse: nkirschner95@gmail.com

**Jennifer Stuckert**, Counselor: jcurl607@yahoo.com

### PURPOSES:

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- To wisely advise the session of Christ Community Church as needed on cases of abuse as to how to proceed with Biblically-based wisdom and rightly engage the various available resources for the glory of God and the dignity of those involved
- To be an available initial resource to those at Christ Community Church to help wisely triage in cases of abuse as to how to proceed with Biblically-based wisdom and which of the various available resources to engage immediately and for the long-term

### ENGAGEMENT:

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**IMPORTANT: If you are or someone else is in immediate or imminent danger, please call 911.**

If you need help or need to report something:

- Contact the appropriate authority if it is a credible mandatory reporting situation (See the Mandatory Reporting section below for more information)
- Email one or all the council members and/or one of elders and/or deacons as is appropriate for the circumstance

- Please include as much relevant and credible information as possible and include a phone number with available times to allow for follow-up
- If you have concerns about who has access to your email, then simply request a meeting or phone call with available times in-person or by email
- Depending on the circumstance, you can expect follow-up contact within 24 hours
- Do not expect the council to engage or confront the suspected or the accused. This action is reserved for the appropriate authorities within the church and/or without
- What you share will be kept confidential within the Council with other appropriate leaders and/or authorities being involved as needed which they will inform you of before sharing with others

## **MANDATORY REPORTING:**

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- Based on reasonable suspicion (evidence of physical or behavioral signs of abuse and/or a disclosure concerning personal abuse or neglect), we must report abuse involving:
  - children under 18 who suffer physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse or exploitation, and child endangerment<sup>1</sup>
  - elderly adults 65 or older who suffer physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, financial/material exploitation, and psychological/emotional abuse<sup>2</sup>
  - adults with disabilities who suffer physical abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, financial abuse, and psychological abuse<sup>3</sup>
- Training course for Mandatory Reporting available at <https://www.prosolutionstraining.com/menu/>

## **RESOURCES:**

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Please see the Resources for Abuse Victims by County PDF at [www.christcommunitycobb.org/abuse](http://www.christcommunitycobb.org/abuse) for various resources for children and domestic violence victims.

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<sup>1</sup> Report must be made **within 24 hours** by phone to 1-855-422-4453 or call 911 if in immediate danger or electronically at <https://cps.dhs.ga.gov/Main/Default.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> Report to Georgia's Aging and Disability Network at 1-866-552-4464

<sup>3</sup> Same as above