Conversations and Goal Setting: Starting a Ministry in Your Community of Faith

Now you are ready and your impact can begin immediately. Add prayers provided in this toolkit to your gatherings. Schedule observances supporting the work to reduce harm to women and girls; ideas can be found in our planning calendar. Announce a campaign and distribute free materials to support the work of Episcopal Relief & Development globally.

As your leadership team continues to meet and to expand, you are invited to continue to deploy this toolkit where it fits your goals and consider broadening your impact by asking the following questions:

1. How has our leadership team expanded and how broadly do they feel called to respond?
2. What is the experience of intimate partner violence in our faith community?
3. Are we interested in providing equity assistance and resources to persons in and around our community?
4. What area partners can we find among local faith communities and agencies doing this work?
5. What policies and practices are currently in place in our community, implicit and explicit?
6. What happens when intimate partner violence is brought to the attention of our faith leader?
7. How will we deal with abusers who are also part of the faith community?

Consider viewing these videos with your team and see if they can help you determine a focus for setting goals and a timeframe. Produced by the Episcopal Diocese of New York, they address the issue of intimate partner violence for clergy and churches.

An example of a faith community committing to this work can be seen on the website of St. John's Episcopal Church in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where they have made a clear commitment to addressing issues of women's rights and empowerment.

Consider inviting an Episcopal Relief & Development Ministry Partner (find yours here) to help you:

- Walk with you through this toolkit
- Help you create an information display
- Help you plan an Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday event
- Secure a speaker