



PARTNERING FOR PREVENTION

Policies and Procedures Workshop

Development of Sexual Abuse Policies and Procedures in the Church

This presentation will focus on the development of church policies for the prevention of, and response to, complaints of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct. Sexual abuse and sexual misconduct by persons in ministry is an egregious abuse of power and trust. Policies designed to prevent and respond to abuse should recognize the need to assure that the church is a safe place for ministry, as well as to empower complainants, assure truth-telling and accountability and, above all, provide for healing.

About the presenters:



Mary Wells

Mary is a registered social worker and was Executive Director of Catholic Family Services of Durham for 5 years. She has been in the social work field since the early 1970's, working with children and families. Mary has provided consultation and training to the Canadian Armed Forces in Europe, and to the Anglican Diocese of Toronto. Mary was engaged by the Primate of Canada and Saint George's Anglican Cathedral in Kingston, Ontario to intervene in the aftermath of a long-term, multi-victim abuse of boys in the cathedral choir. She has been a consultant to the Canadian Jesuits and to numerous churches, dioceses and religious orders regarding personal boundaries in ministry. Mary is the author of "Canada's Law on Child Sexual Abuse: A Handbook"



Lawrence R. Hitt II, Esq.

Larry has served as Chancellor of Colorado since 1990. He is an adjunct professor in the Anglican Studies Program at the Iliff School of Theology, and has served as national president of the Episcopal Chancellors Network. Larry sits on the Anglican Communion Legal Advisers Network, and the Board of Directors for the Archives of The Episcopal Church. He is also a member of the steering committee for the Anglican Communion Safe Church Consultation. In 2012, he will serve as a Colorado deputy to General Convention – his 7th term as either a deputy or alternate. Larry graduated from the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Law and has a commercial real estate practice in Denver. He is one of only a few US members of the Ecclesiastical Law Society (UK) and is on the editorial board of The Episcopal Canon Law Journal.