

SAFE SANCTUARY

Description: As Christians, we are called to create a safe sanctuary in our churches. They must be holy, safe, and protective communities for all of God's children, regardless of age or ability. The Safe Sanctuary Committee works with the districts and local churches in creating policies and procedures that will aid in preventing the opportunity for an abusive act to occur. They initiate and provide training in the Texas Conference Safe Sanctuary Policy. The committee works with the Staff Consultant to ascertain that adequate records of background checks of those people working with children and youth are kept up-to-date.

To accomplish our mission, we must continually review our procedures; work with the Camping Coordinators in maintaining adequate safety procedures and be prepared to aid the local church when needed.

Book of Discipline: *BOD 161, 162*

Conference Rules: 8 Team Members elected in classes, i.e. 4 per class. Each class elected is 2 Lay and 2 Clergy. In addition to eight team members, the Safe Sanctuary Staff Consultant and the Conference Fiscal Officer are ex-officio members.

Expectations: Be able to meet two times a year, and three times if needed. Meetings are held in mutually decided locations.