

HEALING COMMUNITIES TRAINING FOR CLERGY AND CONGREGATIONS JUNE 22, 2019 1:00-6:00 PM

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Wilkinsburg 600 Pitt Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Why Healing Communities is needed:

- 1 in 104 American adults are currently incarcerated
- 1 in 37 are under criminal justice system control

The odds are EVERY congregation has members affected by crime and the criminal justice system, whether as crime victims, offenders, or families.

Shame and stigma prevent people from talking about the resulting hurts and harms, or seeking help.

How can congregations create a culture of safety and support for those who need it?

Healing Communities* training offers answers.

The one-day Healing Communities training covers:

- Essential information and perspectives on the criminal justice system, current issues, and the impact of crime on victims, survivors, offenders and families
- Relevant questions for reflection and discussion within congregations
- Ideas and resources for pastors and faith leaders to engage congregants
- Tools, information and resources for congregation members
- Resources and dedicated time to develop a customized congregational action plan suited to the culture, demographics and core beliefs of YOUR congregation

*Healing communities is a proven, national model, developed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation with faith leaders from across the theological spectrum to engage congregations in restoration and healing of their own members who have been impacted by crime and the criminal justice system.

The Pennsylvania Council of Churches offers this one-day training in the Healing Communities model for clergy and lay leaders.

INSTRUCTOR: The Rev. Sandra Strauss

Sandy is Director of Advocacy and Ecumenical Outreach for the Pennsylvania Council of Churches. Her responsibilities are to inform, educate, and empower people of faith on significant public issues, facilitate the work of common ministry and ecumenical relationships, manage external communications, and organize and manage Council events. She is ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) (M.Div. Lancaster Theological Seminary), and also holds a Master of Arts in Public Policy Studies from Duke University. She can be reached at <u>s.strauss@pachurches.org</u> or 717-545-4761.

Pennsylvania Council of Churches

900 S. Arlington Avenue, Suite 211A Harrisburg, PA 17109-5024 PCC Website: <u>www.pachurches.org</u> Healing Communities Website: <u>www.healingcommunitiesusa.org</u>





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RESTORATION AND HEALING FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Location: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Wilkinsburg, 600 Pitt Ave., Pittsburgh

Cost of Training: \$25.00 per person; cost includes training materials

The Healing Communities model equips congregations to become a "Station of Hope" by providing training and support in building relationships of healing, redemption, and reconciliation with individuals and families impacted by the criminal justice system. Congregations are encouraged to send a group of at least three leaders/active members in order to effectively implement the model in their setting.

To register, send the registration form below along with your registration fee to Pennsylvania Council of Churches, 900 S. Arlington Avenue, Suite 211A, Harrisburg, PA 17109. For more information, contact Sandy Strauss at 717-545-4761 or <u>s.strauss@pachurches.org</u>.

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