



Why Faith Matters: A Resource for Advocates and Allies to Recognize the Spiritual and Religious Needs of Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault and Abuse

FaithTrust Institute
R3 2018-2019
\$35,720

Create an educational resource for sexual assault advocates and allies to better understand the significance of faith beliefs and religious culture in the lives of many sexual assault survivors.

Communities

Adults
Faith-based
Survivors

Products

Resource: Why Faith Matters: Responding to Sexual Violence and Abuse

Resource: Online videos about Handbook

System:

Advocacy/rape crisis
Therapeutic/mental health

Level:

National



Enhance Partnerships

Partnered with many faith leaders from Jewish, Muslim, Native American, Christian, Zen and Tibetan Buddhist affiliations as well as CALCASA and CONNECT NYC as advocate advisors.



Provide Resources

Creation of a handbook - Why Faith Matters: Responding to Sexual Violence and Abuse as well as a series of online videos demonstrating the use of the handbook, how faith is a cultural competency issue, and the purpose of spiritual assessment in advocacy.



Raise Awareness

Led an outreach campaign about the materials using social media and professional conferences



Learning Circles

As part of the outreach campaign, this information will be shared at conferences and with groups.

What's next:

FaithTrust Institute continues to foster collaboration between advocacy organizations and faith communities. Utilizing webinars, regional trainings, social media, and network outreach, Why Faith Matters continues as an important educational and awareness-raising project to support the needs of survivors.

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