

CONNECTIONS MATTER CONGREGATION



WHY?

Our NC Faith Communities lift people up and keep families strong! This IS an upstream approach to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Your acts of service and community outreach provides essential protective factors and hope to the children, families, and communities you serve which is why we would like you to consider becoming a [Connections Matter Congregation](#).

WHAT IS A CONNECTIONS MATTER CONGREGATION?

A Connections Matter Congregation invests in building a safe and nurturing environment for children, families, and their communities. Prevent Child Abuse NC (PCANc) will partner with our Connected Congregations through [Connections Matter](#) and encourage you to choose at least two priorities from the list below that best align with the goals of your place of worship. PCANc is here to help support you and to be a partner on your journey.

WHAT YOU CAN DO!

- ❑ [Host a screening](#) of the documentary Resilience The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope
- ❑ Introduce [Connections Matter](#) and learn how implementing trauma-sensitive practices can support families, congregations, and the communities you serve
- ❑ Connect with one of the Connections Matter Faith Trainers and host a Connections Matter training
- ❑ Become a [Connections Matter Trainer](#) and train others!
- ❑ Participate in [Connected Congregations Connected Communities](#) celebrating the importance of positive connections in the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- ❑ Promote positive social connections by hosting a [Community Café](#) where you can learn the priorities of the children and families in your community. Need ideas? Check out Solid Rock UMC Community Café
- ❑ Encourage those working with children and youth to [take our free online course Recognizing and Responding to Suspicions of Child Maltreatment](#)
- ❑ Observe safe practices by referring to [PCANc's Child Abuse Prevention Policy and Procedures Guidelines and Checklists](#).
- ❑ Implement at least one (1) policy change. [Click here](#) for examples from Connected Congregations from across the state.
- ❑ Implement at least one (1) environmental change. [Click here](#) for examples from Connected Congregations from across the state.
- ❑ Share you and post your connections! [Click here](#) for social media toolkit, sample bulletin inserts, and additional materials
- ❑ Become a Connected Congregation [Prevention Action Network Member](#)
- ❑ [Plant a pinwheel garden](#) in April and create awareness during Child Abuse Prevention Month



TELL US HOW WE CAN SUPPORT YOU!

Need something else - let us know and we'll create it!

- Faith Tip Tuesdays social share images
- Connection Ideas
- Connections Matter Congregation Promotional Materials
- Webinar Series and Trainings for Faith Communities



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,
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