



What Does the Action Team Do?

The Action Team facilitates the **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM** and **REFERRALS** at the local church.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Taking the DK Studies to Small (or large) Groups:

Domestic Kindness encourages Godly living by providing Bible studies for small groups. The Action Team makes connections with the leaders of all the learning groups within the church and offers them a DK study (one per year). They will:

- Assign a team member to find out who the leaders are of every small group (or large learning group) in the church.
- Assign an Action Team member to each group. This person tells the leader about the study and asks if they can do it before the next annual workshop. (Use the email form letter.)
- They should offer to lead or co-lead lesson 4 or 5 and pass around a sign-up sheet during the lesson (to join the Action Team). They should wear the DK t-shirt for this.

Church Cares Curriculum:

At least one person will be responsible to encourage all church leaders to take this free 12-lesson online course (churchcares.com) which gives good instruction about dealing with all the types of abuse that they could possibly encounter. This will equip the church to respond well in the initial stages of learning about instances of sexual, physical, or emotional abuse. We will provide the handbook that goes with the lessons.

One Sermon Per Year:

The Action Team will request that the pastor give one sermon per year about domestic abuse, preferably during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Alternatively, DKAT will offer to invite a guest speaker to give a sermon.

REFERRALS

- The Action Team is responsible to research the items on the referral list in order to keep it current and ensure that the resources are good quality. If a change needs to be made or if you'd like to make an addition to the list, please notify the DK Central Committee.
- When someone approaches you as an Action Team member regarding an abusive situation, refer that person to a team member who is the most knowledgeable about abuse. This person will ask the victim to sign the confidentiality agreement before listening to details of abuse. We do not rescue or advise. We simply point the person to appropriate help.

When interacting with a victim:

- Never give advice.
- Always believe the victim.
- Don't judge the victim for staying in an abusive relationship.
- Listen and ask questions without interrogating.

Possible DKAT Activities

- Organize outreaches to domestic violence shelters.
- Help other churches start their own DKATs.
- Invite survivors to give their testimonies.
- Watch and discuss abuse videos.
- Create and act out role plays.
- Wear DK t-shirts to church during October

Team Members' Abuse Education

In order to be a more effective team member, it is suggested that you dedicate some of your time to learning more about domestic abuse. These are some methods of doing this.

- Assign team members to research the items on the referral list and discuss them with the group.
- Familiarize yourself with the DK studies.
- Go through the Church Cares curriculum online and with the book.
- Study abuse through books, articles and videos.
- Take a 40-hour domestic violence training course.

Spiritual Requirements of Action Team Members

Exemplary Life:

Our personal relationship with God is very important for a ministry like this in which we are going up against a very powerful spiritual stronghold. If there is an area of spiritual weakness in us personally or in our team, our enemy (the devil) can gain a foothold and cause all kinds of destruction.

The personal character of the action team member must be beyond reproach.

- There must be no sign of immoral behavior.
- Each member must be able to follow through with commitments and always keep their word.
- They must keep personal matters confidential unless the leader needs to know (as indicated in the Confidentiality form).
- If there is unkind behavior going on in your home, take aggressive measures to correct it.

Spiritual disciplines must be part of the member's life.

- Daily personal time with God is of utmost importance. This includes meditation on God's Word, speaking to God, and listening to what God is saying to you.
- There must be evidence of spiritual growth – becoming more like Christ.
- Occasional fasting (with a specific prayer focus) is a powerful way to pray, especially with a group. I would suggest that the Action Team choose one day per week to fast one meal and pray specifically for this ministry.