



Silence Broken

MINISTRY FOR ADULT SURVIVORS
OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

WWW.SILENCEBROKENNOW.ORG

3924 SAINT CHARLES AVENUE, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70115

Our Purpose

Silence Broken is a nonprofit organization that facilitates loving, truth-based ministry for adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

Advancing the Mission

In 2025, Silence Broken expanded its reach. There were no set fees for any of its services. Each effort helped to increase awareness of child sexual abuse:

- its devastating and long-lasting impact on innocent children;
- the power of God's love to heal, restore, repair, and set free;
- the responsibility and privilege of the church to proclaim that EVIL CANNOT WIN.

A Letter From Our Founder

Dear friends,

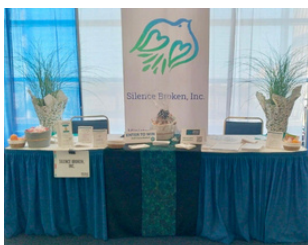
How grateful we are for the opportunity to serve, and for all who have helped Silence Broken with its unusual ministry! In June of 2024, we started Silence Broken to offer spiritual support to survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Our best assessment of various studies indicates that, at a minimum, 25% of American adults were abused as children.

Numerous other organizations provide emotional and psychological assistance. But the spiritual wounds inflicted by childhood trauma go deep. That damage must be acknowledged, and it must be addressed with the sort of all-embracing love and restoration that Jesus showed when he was on Earth. This is our mission: To facilitate ministry for adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

So we count it an honor and a privilege to spread the good news. With every piece of literature, every email and blog and postcard, every interaction, we seek to remind everyone of the truth that can set us free.

In service,

Rev. Mary Brown, D.Min.
Executive Director



Silence Broken's booth at the 2025 United Methodist conference in Wildwood, New Jersey.



Hand-made medallions were distributed at community events to raise awareness.

Equipping Professionals

Silence Broken maintained consistent engagement with clergy by providing tools, resources, and guidance to help support survivors within their congregations.

- One-on-one Cookie Roll visits helped to build trusted relationships, breaking down resistance and barriers to conversation.
- Spring and fall fellowship lunches for faith leaders provided community forums for pastors to relax, enjoy a good meal, forge friendships, and learn more about ministry to adult survivors.
- Monthly mailings to pastors and other leaders are designed to address common areas of personal concern for ministers, and then help relate those concerns to ministry with survivors. Silence Broken sent 1,618 support postcards to faith leaders in 26 states.

Supporting Survivors

Our primary focus remains on equipping faith leaders for ministry, but we never want to overlook survivors even as we develop plans for more direct services.

- Silence Broken provides compassionate, one-on-one support by responding directly to emails from survivors seeking guidance, encouragement, and resources.
- Various pamphlets and brochures supply spiritual comfort and assurance.



We offer survivor kits to people who disclose to us at conferences and other events, and also provide them to pastors. Each kit is individually created by a volunteer who sews bags from soft, cheerful fabric. Other volunteers then fill the bags with literature and supplies to use for grounding practices.

- The interactive website serves as a hub for education and community connections, including a Survivor Wall where individuals are invited to safely break their personal silence.

Increasing Awareness

- Silence Broken participated in four United Methodist conferences with more than 2,000 attendees nationwide (Greater New Jersey Conference, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, Louisiana Annual Conference, and Arkansas Conference).
- A biweekly newsletter kept supporters informed and achieved an impressive 57% open rate.
- Mary Brown's sermons are shared on the website after speaking engagements at churches, each reinforcing awareness of God's ability and desire to bring healing and restoration to survivors.
- Partnerships with local colleges, churches, and nonprofit organizations in meaningful, mission-driven events showed that it is possible to break the silence in ways that are effective but non-threatening.



Winner of a Silence Broken self-care basket at the Arkansas UMC conference

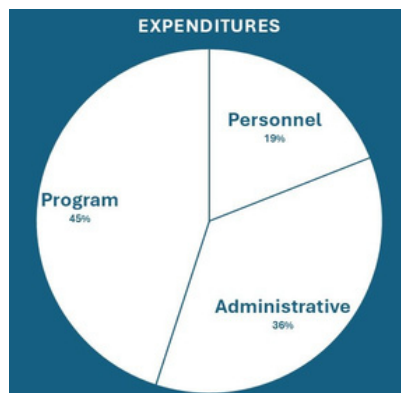


Don Woodman and Ron Biava worked with skill, enthusiasm, and good humor to set up furniture in our office.



Rev. Katie Black, Houma First UMC, with her Cookie Roll box.

Silence Broken, Inc. - Summary of Expenditures 2025 - Total Expenses: \$21,769.19



- **Personnel: \$4,049.79**
NOTE: This figure is abnormally low because our executive director chose to serve as a full-time volunteer in 2025.
- **Administrative: \$7,914.70**
Office, technology, and occupancy expenses.
- **Program: \$9,804.70**
Postage, printing, travel, promotional items and other conference and meeting expenses.

Thank You to Our Supporters

(including donors of time, in-kind gifts, and financial gifts)

We're thrilled that 35% of donors are faith leaders, churches, or religious organizations.

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Looking Ahead

With growing partnerships, increased funding, and expanded reach, Silence Broken is positioned to deepen its impact, equipping more faith leaders, supporting more survivors, and continuing to break the silence in communities nationwide.

We've expanded nicely in 2026! You've helped us grow well beyond last year's numbers, and we're excited about all that we've been able to do so far.



Silence Broken stickers, distributed to honor survivors



Rev. Gregory Manning, Broadmoor Community Church, with his Cookie Roll treats.

Vision Statement

We pray and work toward the time when pastors of all denominations are free and equipped to speak the truth about child sexual abuse:

- It is not the child's fault.
- It is never God's desire for innocents to suffer.
- It is God's will to provide healing, restoration, and wholeness.

We envision churches where survivors are embraced, and where appropriate ministry is offered that does not stifle, isolate, or stigmatize. Silence Broken does not ever discriminate on any basis; all are invited and welcomed into this community of faith.

Our Faith

We believe that God has many different names but that God's essence is Love. The tradition of Protestant Christianity is the one that we know best so it is the "language" we speak. We believe that divine Love is greater than external differences; we embrace all who want to be a part of this community.

Our Focus

Our primary emphasis at this point is on helping facilitate ministry to survivors. All good faith leaders desire the wholeness of their members, but most pastors are unaware of the extent of the damage inflicted on their people by the trauma of child sexual abuse. Many are not sure how to respond to disclosures of abuse. It is not the pastors' job to offer counseling, and they are not trained to do that; however, it is their calling and responsibility to provide spiritual support to survivors. We are here to help them in that work.



Rev. Anders Nilsen, SB Board of Directors, with Lynn Coatney, SB Advisory Board.



Mary Munger, SB Board Chair, with Gary Innerarity, SB Treasurer.



Exhibit at Take Back the Night, an awareness event for five area universities

How to Contact/ How to Support

Silence Broken, Inc. is located at 3924 St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana. You can support our mission by making a donation through our website at SilenceBrokenNow.org or by volunteering your time to help us serve survivors and strengthen our community.