

Sexual Abuse and Misconduct Policy

It is the policy of Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends to try our best to prevent occurrences of sexual abuse and misconduct in our midst or in any events under our auspices. We shall undertake appropriate actions both of a preventive and responsive nature when we see the opportunity or necessity of doing so in this regard. Our concern to address the possibility of sexual abuse or misconduct is for all, regardless of age, gender, or status. The dignity of all Children of God must be protected, and we pledge as a Yearly Meeting to do everything possible with the help of God to provide a safe and loving space for all. For us as a religious body, this arises not just as a legal mandate, but primarily as a spiritual one. The oversight and implementation of this policy shall be vested in our standing Committee on Ministry and Advancement, accountable to the body of the Yearly Meeting.

We remind ourselves that all these undertakings proceed in the Light and under the Guidance of God, and that our role is to work for faithful discernment of the Divine Will and of our part in that. We are called always to work in ways that embody Love. We trust to the God of Justice and of Mercy that healing may proceed, and that communal trust may be restored.