

7/28/16

Phone Meeting

Members present:

Robin Hammeal-Urban

Cookie Cantwell

Judy Andrews

Carol Cole Flanagan

Eric Travis

Bronwyn Skov

Members excused:

Julia McCray-Goldsmith

Started at 11am

Prayer

Started looking at Model Policies and made editorial changes

Agreed to send editorial info to Judy

Bronwyn joined the phone call and asked to share a recent experience.

She attended the “Guardian” Training that Praesidium provided. “Guardian” training is a course to certify a person in all the aspects of modules and products that Praesidium provides. It also certifies a person to be an expert in organizational abuse prevention. BJ at CPG paid for Bronwyn and two additional people from the Diocese of NW Texas and the Diocese of LA (all of whom were beta-testers of the current training policies) to attend this conference.

Bronwyn was shown what Praesidium offers. While TEC has insisted on only using certain modules that Praesidium has, this training allowed the participants to see what all Praesidium offers. Praesidium does in person-training, but also offers a vast library of online modules and trainings. Praesidium also has a “Safety Equation” that includes 8 different areas to look at to ensure a safe environment. These areas include: Policies, Screening and Selection, Training, Monitoring and Supervision, Internal Feedback Systems, Consumer participation, Responding, Administrative Practices.

When Praesidium works with an organization, they audit all 8 areas, and they find that one or more areas are not up to par, they will work with that organization to see if/how they make up the deficit in other areas. A certified “Praesidium Guardian” would come in and rate/score each area. They will then help the organization to raise up their score in other areas.

Bronwyn believes that Praesidium has the resources to cover all of what we currently require for our Safe Guarding program (including bullying, cyber-bullying) and they have other products that could help us by expanding our available training. Though they are still operating in a hetero-normative mindset and will need assistance to expand their approach in this area.

Praesidium doesn't want to lose us, because we are one of their largest clients. CPG likes using Praesidium. CPG is up for a contract renewal with Praesidium in Spring 2017. TEC could talk with CPG about this and ask CPG to look into accessing additional modules and ask Praesidium to help develop new specific modules.

Bronwyn believes that the other modules Praesidium has in their library are better prepared, have better presentation of information, and take out the scare tactics that the current Episcopal modules have. She also likes that there are workbooks for the participants to use.

Bronwyn also believes that Praesidium would be a good fit for the spectrum of ideology that TEC has.

Bronwyn is concerned that CPG has been left out of this conversation. CPG has the money and motivation and we should include them in this discussion. She believes that a polarization occurred between different agencies and groups within TEC and this has caused a disharmony that is blocking best practice ministry between CPG and TEC.

Discussion took place wondering if CGP would be willing to more fully fund the work that was originally in Sally Johnson's portfolio regarding Safeguarding, before her retirement.

Praesidium has agreed to offer a free online training/webinar with a group of people that Bronwyn could suggest, so that they could see the rest of the modules.

Taskforce members shared their thoughts on this proposal.

The group agrees that we would like to work with CPG and to take Praesidium up on their offer to show us what they have to offer.

Bronwyn questioned the need for the Nov meeting and the Taskforce responded that because of our taking on Resolution A074, we should still have that meeting.

The Taskforce discussed what our actual scope of work is. We believe we are to update/supplement policy and then to deal with training. These are two different resolutions; the second one was added at our first meeting in Baltimore.

Bronwyn suggested that we continue as directed and further suggested that we are missing an integral partner (CPG) as we look at A074. The Taskforce wants to continue to work on A073 and would like to receive instruction on how we can include CPG in the discussion of our work with A074.

Taskforce members thought that this was a good conversation to have, because it informs and impacts all that we do. We are looking for a “ring master” to help us to include what rings to have in the conversations and which rings to look at.

As we move forward,

- Taskforce members agreed to send our suggested changes to Judy regarding the Model policies.
- Bronwyn will be sending a report to the Presiding Officers of her recent experience with Praesidium and will copy the Taskforce.
- Robin will send out a Doodle poll regarding another telephone conversation in September.

Members will get their input to Judy within 3 weeks (Aug 19) and then Judy will turn around and send out the revision immediately afterwards for us to review before our next phone meeting.

Judy left the phone meeting.

Bronwyn thanked the committee for its work and its willingness to listen to her report.

Meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Travis