

FEBRUARY 2023

COMMUNITY OF HOPE International



Facilitator Exchange

NEW FACILITATOR EXCHANGE 6-MONTH SERIES

While reading all of your Annual Reports there seemed to be a common thread, a bit of post-pandemic fatigue. We hear you! The last 3 years have indeed been long, full of uncertainty, and so much grief. It has also been a time of trying new ways of doing things. This got us wondering how we can support each other better. We're going to try a "new way of doing things".



All members of active COHI centers are invited to join our 6-month Facilitator Exchange series "Leaning In" on Zoom. Come, lean into the community and let us encounter God together in this way. You are welcome to join in as many or few of these as you can. The sign up is easy and you only need to add your name once and you will receive the Zoom link every month. There will be no deadline to register. This initiative is FREE to all facilitators, clergy, members of active COHI centers. Register here: ["Leaning In" Facilitator Exchange Series](#)



"Leaning In" Series

2ND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH | MARCH - AUGUST | 12PM US EASTERN TIME

Mar 11, 2023

Creating Community through Circle of Care

Apr 8, 2023

Communities rooted in Benedictine spirituality

May 13, 2023

Debriefing Workshop

Jun 10, 2023

Expanding the Definition of Pastoral Care

Jul 8, 2023

Meet the Board of Directors

Aug 12, 2023

Spiritual Gifts



Heritage Region (Central) Community of Hope

LENTEN QUIET DAY

Ruah Center at the Villa de Matel in Houston

Thursday, March 30

10am-3pm, lunch included

Suggested donation: \$25

Contact Beverly at beverlydavis@ctkelc.org

for information and to RSVP (by March 20).

Jeanette Easley, Executive Director of Ruah, will guide our group initially and then you will be free to explore the many wonderful spaces available in which to read, pray, meditate, refresh, and recreate. The grounds and chapel are especially beautiful and conducive to contemplation.



Sisters of Charity
Labyrinth



Sisters of Charity
Roof Garden



Sisters of Charity
Cloister Walk



Sisters of Charity
Grounds

Welcome, to a New Center!

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - WILLIAMSTOWN, MA



What a pleasure to welcome another center into the COHI family: St. John's Episcopal Church in Williamstown MA. We look forward to engaging with rector the Rev. Nathaniel S. Anderson and facilitator Claudia Ellet.



Reminder:

2023 Covenant License Renewal Fees are due now

LATE FEES WILL BE CHARGED AFTER MARCH 31, 2023

*****If you have already renewed, please disregard this email.*****

Do you know who receives your center's invoice for the Annual Covenant Renewal Fee? Is it your parish treasurer, your center facilitator, your vestry or other oversight body? Take a minute to find out who that person is to let them know that invoices are going out soon! The deadline for the Annual Covenant Renewal Fee was January 31, 2023, so please contact COHI if you have questions we can answer to clarify your invoice.

Payments can be made online to the COHI website at the [DONATE NOW](#) tab or mailed to COHI at:

7904 E Chaparral Rd, A-110
Box 510
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Your Annual Covenant Renewal Fee helps to nurture and sustain the creative, productive work we are called to do. The renewal fee is a licensing fee which gives you access for one year to the COHI Curriculum and Training Videos, Facilitator Exchanges, Circle of Care Ideas, Topical Webinars, Monthly Communications, and Curriculum Updates.

Our community life is based on mutual giving which gives us the resources necessary to grow and serve in the Spirit of God. We deeply appreciate your support and celebrate with you the blessing of our life and work together.



Keeping Your COHI Covenant

Annual reports are being submitted and invoices for renewal of the COHI covenant have been mailed. But what are you agreeing to in signing the yearly covenant? With 2022 ended and 2023 well underway, the board thought this would a good time to remind center leadership of the terms of the Annual Center Covenant Renewal.

By sending your center's Annual Center Covenant Renewal, you are agreeing to the following terms:

- 1. Leadership Team.** Each COHI center will have a Leadership Team that meets annually and facilitates their center's ministry. The Leadership Team annually submits this signed covenant showing that their center is continuing their relationship with Community of Hope International.
 - 2. The Rule of Benedict.** Each COHI Center will continue a commitment to the principles, values, and spirit of The Rule of Benedict. All members of the COHI community read the daily reading in The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21st Century by Joan Chittister, O.S.B. (RB).
 - 3. Caregiver's Annual Covenant Renewal.** Each lay pastoral caregiver signs an annual agreement to (1) serve another year (The Lay Pastoral Caregiver's Covenant Renewal) or (2) take a leave of absence, or (3) resign from COHI.
 - 4. Annual Reaffirmation of Commissioning Vows.** Each lay pastoral caregiver who signs the Annual Lay Pastoral Caregiver's Covenant Renewal to serve another 12 months will have his or her commissioning vows renewed at his/her center, as an expression of the life of the center.
 - 5. Participation in Community.** Caregivers participate in their COHI expressions of community life for the purpose of spiritual growth, pastoral care encouragement and reflection, worship and continuing education. This is to be done in Circle of Care meetings.
 - 6. Debriefing.** The Leadership Team ensures that each lay pastoral caregiver is committed to debriefing regularly and to reporting monthly.
 - 7. Official Training Manual.** All training classes will use the official training manual of The Community of Hope sponsored by The Community of Hope International. Upon receipt of the renewal fee and covenant, the Community of Hope International authorizes the use of our copyrighted material for the next calendar year. If your center is considering following a schedule other than the recommended 14-weeks, the Center Facilitator should consult with your Regional Representative to discuss possible options and what this might mean for the center in terms of formation and community building.
 - 8. Application Process.** All persons applying for the training will go through the recommended application process and use the standard forms.
 - 9. Institutional Annual Reports.** Submit annual reports in writing to a center's sponsoring institution (e.g. congregation, hospital, hospice, etc.). The form of this report will be determined by each Leadership Team.
 - 10. Annual Report.** All Centers will send the Annual Report to their Regional Representative.
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COHI Training in Likoma District, Anglican Diocese of Northern Malawi

THE REV. FR. JONES ZOWANI, HOSPICE CHAPLAIN

Thank you for your support! The COHI conference went on well, and during this meeting, we had three topics presented to the participants namely: Pastoral Visit and Boundaries, Theology of Pastoral Care, and Conflict Resolution. Our main controlling scripture of the day was Matthew 25:31-46.



The Archdeacons committee was also elected. We thank God for the beautiful day we had. It didn't rain though we are in the rainy season here, and we travelled well using a boat from Likoma Island to Chizumulu Island, two islands in Lake Malawi. As Archdeacons, we have 5 parishes: 3 at Likoma Island and 2 at Chizumulu Island.



The community is very happy with the services done by Community of Hope members. The only challenge was that others did not attend because they were not able to contribute for the trip and meals. Now we are planning to have COHI retreat on Likoma Island.





Circling with Celebration, Laughter, Questions, and Care: SMAA's Caregivers' Circle of Care

JUDITH QUARLESS, ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are seven. Sometimes eight or nine. We are the Lay Pastoral Caregivers for the St. Michael and All Angels (SMAA) Episcopal Church's COHI. Our selected ministry? We assist the Rector, Father Winston, with serving members of our church community who can no longer attend in-person service. Our care recipients are members of the church community who are aged, ill, have mobility challenges, and can no longer attend church, or engage actively in the life of the church community. We visit with these persons in their homes, provide copies of the church service bulletins/Forward Day by Day, serve Communion, pray with them when requested, and listen openly. Carols were sung by some of our Caregivers during the Christmas season.



Since our commissioning, we Pastoral Caregivers have celebrated our new service to our church recipients with meetings of the Circle of Care. We worship at each gathering wherein we share our joy at being called to service with simple food and beverage, scripture readings (the Advent, Epiphany, Rule of Benedict), inspirational verses, and laughter as we share stories of our upbringing, our mothers, and engage in Movement such

as breathing exercises. These actions serve to enhance our skills of Being, Relating, and Active Listening to each other and to our Care Recipients. We question concepts, ideas, practices, and procedures without fear of disagreement and with an acceptance of each other. The concept of the Circle is to provide us the unifying belief that we are safe. In that safe space, we can belong, grow spiritually, become more practiced at what we do, and be generous with each other.

We are seven. Sometimes eight or nine. We are Joyce, Lili, Bernice, Judith, Janis, Adonia, Heather. Sometimes Rosetta and Dawn-Marie. We are the Circle of Care of COHI at SMAA Episcopal Church in Stone Mountain, Georgia.



CONTRIBUTIONS

Generous donations have been made by:

Rev. Sabine Lamar

Kinsmen Lutheran Church

in Honorarium for Brothers Peter & Michael

**The newest video password
has been released!
Please check with your
regional rep. for more
information.**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**Tell us about books & blogs you like, ways
of reaching care-receivers, and training
ideas that work!**

DEADLINE: 3/1/2023

**Email Pam Piedfort at pamelapiedfort@gmail.com
to share your story!**