



CHRISTIAN MINISTERS ASSOCIATION

Statement of Principle: Abuse

The CMA accepts that:

Abuse of all kinds including Sexual, Emotional and Physical, is a sin. (Matthew 18:6; Ephesians 5:3; I Thessalonians 5:22)

All Abuse is a breach of trust and an abuse of power and authority by a person in a position of leadership.

Therefore, the Christian Ministers Association does not tolerate abuse, and is committed to urging its members to provide safe environments for worship, ministering, and fellowship.

The Christian Ministers Association views each Church and Para Church Ministry as being autonomous and responsible for the actions of those in a position of authority. The only role the CMA accepts is to provide information, guidance and support as invited by the member involved, their governing authority or their spiritual covering.

The CMA reminds each Member of their responsibility to guard themselves and those entrusted to their care against the occurrence of abuse and to have a effective ministry abuse reporting path as well as a accountability statement in their policy manual, constitution and/or bylaws, (*or adhere to the policy of the ministry for which they volunteer or are employed*)

The Supporting Relationship & Role of the Christian Ministers Association;

1. To encourage all CMA ministers and the individual societies, boards and Ministries to which they belong, to formulate or adopt their own written abuse policy by providing information and suggested guidelines for such policy.
2. To encourage CMA members to seek out available information and paths to healing and restoration of those encountering abuse.
3. As each CMA member has voluntarily agreed to the Bylaws and to the Scriptural requirements found in the statement of faith, the CMA has authority to cancel a ministers membership based on the membership policy procedure as set out in the CMA Bylaws.
4. CMA encourages each member of his or her Duty to Report abuse:
Information shared with a person that leads them to believe that a minor child, or other vulnerable person, is being, or has been endangered, they are required by Law to report this to the Police and/or Government authorities.