

# Abuse Acknowledgement

I understand that HopeFront Church is a safe place for children and vulnerable adults and that it complies with all Federal and State laws regarding reporting suspected child abuse. As a small group leader, I understand that suspected abuse is to be reported to the staff member who oversees the area in which I serve. I also understand the 4 types of abuse defined below:

**Physical:** A physical act directed at a child or vulnerable adult that causes injury;

**Sexual:** Contact or interactions between a child and an adult, or another child, when the child is being used for sexual stimulation of the perpetrator or another person. This includes exploitation through photographs, videos, or other communication methods;

**Emotional:** Acts or omissions by the parent or other caregivers that have caused, or could cause, serious behavioral, cognitive, emotional, or mental disorders;

**Neglect:** Failure to provide for the child or vulnerable adult's basic needs. This includes adequate adult supervision, medical attention, housing, food, and clothing. Most cases of physical neglect involve inadequate adult supervision that has caused harm to the child or vulnerable adult, or places them in danger of such harm.

I understand it is not my responsibility to investigate and in no instance will I confront a parent or caregiver if abuse is suspected. As a Small Group Leader, I agree to comply with this policy and report any suspected abuse to the staff person who oversees the area in which I serve.