



Healing Hearts
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL™

AFFILIATION PACKET

*“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me,
To bring good news to the afflicted;
He has sent me to bind up
the brokenhearted...”*

- Isaiah 61:1-4

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Welcome to Healing Hearts Ministries!

What is Healing Hearts Ministries?

Healing Hearts was founded as a ministry for women suffering from post-abortion trauma. We minister with the understanding and conviction that only the Word of God and the Cross of Christ are sufficient to heal the spiritual and emotional devastation associated with abortion. Since our inception in 1988, our ministry has expanded to include biblical help for men affected by abortion, studies for men and women wounded by sinful circumstances other than abortion, and discipleship studies for youth. In each case, our ministry is performed through small group Bible studies, personal care, and encouragement for each individual God brings us.

A significant part of our success is due to our affiliation with local churches. With over thirty-eight years of ministry experience, Healing Hearts has a great deal to offer your church in its ministry to the brokenhearted. We provide carefully and biblically trained certified counselors to come alongside to meet the ever-growing needs of a broken world.

What is Our Mission?

Healing Hearts is a Gospel-centered, grace-driven ministry devoted to offering hope and healing in Jesus Christ, through God's Word, to those who have been broken by sin. We are committed to identifying with, ministering to, and redeeming the lost and brokenhearted. We firmly believe that healing, forgiveness, and reconciliation come only through the Cross of Christ and the careful application of God's Word.

The Need in our Community

We live in a broken world full of sin and hopelessness. The consequences of sin are often denied, yet are undeniable. Abortion, sexual abuse, divorce, rape, adultery, pornography, domestic violence, acute betrayal—the list is endless. Many victims of these sinful behaviors are suffering deeply and silently, with no place to turn. Look at the statistics:

- One in every four women is likely to be abused by a partner in her lifetime.
- 43 percent of women in the United States have had at least one abortion, and 1.1 million abortions are performed in the US every year.
- One in every four girls and one in every six boys experience some sort of sexual abuse before age 18.
- 30 million Americans suffer from eating disorders.
- One in every three married adults over age 18 has been divorced at least once.

To bring it closer to home, a simple demographic study in the city of Federal Way, Washington, found that approximately 7,000 women within a five-mile radius of a sample church had experienced an abortion(s). While statistics are helpful, they do not reflect the shame, guilt, pain, and devastation experienced in the lives behind the numbers.

The Need in Our Churches

Ministry to the suffering and brokenhearted in a church body is difficult for many reasons. Because of shame, mistrust, and fear of judgment, it is hard for the hurting to let their need be known. Pastors who now serve as Advisory Pastors for Healing Hearts Ministries know from personal experience the reality of this need. They have found that when a Healing Hearts Bible study is offered in the local church, a surprising number of men and women come forward. These Pastors also recognize that many men and women remain without help because of their guilt, fear, and shame.

According to the most recent Healing Hearts Ministries statistics, 40% of our clients were professing Christians when they had their abortions. These statistics line up with Josh McDowell's statistics in his book *Why Wait* with respect to the number of youth in our churches who are having pre-marital sex. The bottom line is this: Christian youth are having sex, getting pregnant, and having abortions.

Along with pre-marital sex and abortion, Christians in our churches are increasingly dealing with issues such as sexual abuse, pornography, and drug/alcohol abuse. The results are often devastating. If we truly believe there is no help outside of Christ and God's Word, then our Churches must become a place of sanctuary and healing.

What is Post-Abortion Trauma?

Post-abortion trauma is an adverse emotional reaction to abortion. It is often a delayed reaction and can surface at any time in a person's life. When it does, it can be confusing, painful, and overwhelming. For many individuals, the pain surfaces with an overwhelming need to share their abortion experience and the aftereffects. Some recognize they need help and seek out someone to confide in, such as a trusted friend, counselor, or someone with a common experience. Others suffer silently, afraid to confess their involvement with abortion to anyone for fear of being judged, shunned, or rejected.

Words can hardly express the heartbreak of abortion and the path of damage it leaves behind. By the time clients reach Healing Hearts, many of their marriages and families are on the brink of destruction. Many are mentally and financially exhausted, having gone from one counselor to another without lasting results. Some are suicidal, dependent on drugs, and drowning in a sea of hopelessness. Some have been Christians for years, but have been rendered ineffective because of their wounded hearts; some have even wandered away from the faith.

If Jesus were to walk the earth today in physical form, what would He do? We believe He would reach out to these men and women with love and compassion, setting them free from the chains that bind them so that He might restore them to Himself. This is what God has called Healing Hearts Ministries to do. He has called us to "...bind up the brokenhearted and preach the Good News to those who have been held captive." For more information about the symptoms that can result from post-abortion trauma, please see **Appendix IV** of this document.

The Healing Hearts Solution

When Healing Hearts Ministries began in 1988, we recognized the great need to minister to women who had experienced abortion. As we considered the need before us, the Lord directed us to Matthew 9:37, reminding us that “the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.” Through God’s guidance and direction, Healing Hearts has grown into an international ministry, expanding its reach to men, women, and youth in need of healing from a wide range of painful and sinful circumstances

In the early years of our ministry, the material available for post-abortion counseling was not adequate to set men and women free from the sin of their abortions. Since that time, Healing Hearts Ministries has developed a Bible study called *Binding Up the Brokenhearted*. Clients, counselors, and Pastors have hailed this study as one of the best biblical counseling studies they have ever seen or experienced. Drawing from this effective Biblical counseling model, Healing Hearts has continued to grow, developing studies for men affected by abortion and studies for men and women wounded by sinful circumstances other than abortion. We have also created a unique discipleship study for young women and young men who are struggling to navigate the difficulties of today’s culture.

Healing Hearts Bible studies guide men, women, and teens towards understanding God’s truth and applying it to their pain. Human measures may provide temporary relief, but they cannot address sin. Sin must be confessed and repented of, and forgiveness received and given, before healing can take place. Peace and restoration from the devastating consequences of sin are possible, but they come only through Jesus Christ. Over the years, God has used Healing Hearts to minister to thousands, moving them from guilt and self-condemnation to freedom and forgiveness through a saving faith in Christ.

Although we are an independent organization, we see ourselves as a missionary arm of the local church. We are committed to working with and under the authority of local churches so that they can offer Healing Hearts studies to the church and as an outreach to their community. All of our Bible study groups are led by Healing Hearts Certified Counselors who have gone through one of our studies and completed an intensive biblical training program. Every one of our certified counselors has a desire to see men and women experience the restoration that they themselves have received.

There are men and women in our society and in our church community who have carried the pain and guilt of their past so long that they are emotionally and spiritually paralyzed, and many have in some way acted out their guilt in self-destructive ways. These men and women find no solace for their pain in a society whose values are guided by a political correctness that refuses to call sin, sin. As a ministry, we are decidedly non-political. We offer a safe place for men, women, and teens where they will not feel as if they are being used to further a political agenda. Because of our stand in this area, Healing Hearts Ministries has become an extremely effective evangelism ministry, reaching areas of our society that have been forsaken and desperately need to know the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ.

Materials and Services

Healing Hearts Ministries provides a strong biblical platform for the local church to effectively minister to the hurting and brokenhearted.

Healing Hearts Ministries offers:

- Bible study materials for those desiring to start a biblical ministry to the hurting in their home church. What makes Healing Hearts Ministries unique is that we provide biblical answers for women and men suffering from post-abortion trauma and the results of other sinful behaviors.
- The ministry program comes complete with a leader's guide, Bible Study, client forms, customized support group brochures, business cards, and other resources that will help get leaders started, even if there is a limited budget. Currently, we offer six Bible studies:

“Binding Up the Brokenhearted,” a study for women seeking healing and forgiveness designed specifically for post-abortive healing, led by post-abortive women.

“Restoring a Father’s Heart,” a study for men seeking healing and forgiveness for their involvement with abortion, led by post-abortive men.

“The Hem of His Garment,” a study for women of all trauma backgrounds, led by women who have been set free by this study.

“The Good Fight,” a study for men struggling with life-dominating issues, led by men who have been set free by this study.

“First Love,” an in-depth discipleship study for young women aged 13 and above, focusing on putting Jesus first, led by moms or youth mentors.

“The Fight of Your Life,” an in-depth discipleship study for young men ages 13 and above, focusing on putting Jesus first, led by dads or youth mentors.

- Leadership/Counselor Training and Certification for former clients who have been recommended, who feel called to serve God in their home church.
- Ministry support for trained certified counselors at our annual conference. Our conferences focus on knowing God and His Word, as well as biblical counseling skills that address problems specifically related to this type of ministry.
- Outreach materials developed to assist the counselor in their ministry. Currently, Healing Hearts Ministries offers brochures, bulletin inserts, outreach materials, our Healing Hearts promo DVD, business cards, and Leader's Guide to help counselors start, grow, and facilitate their ministry.

Our Certified Counselors

Healing Hearts Certified Counselors are selected from among individuals who have, first of all, completed one of our Bible Studies. Each potential counselor is evaluated by their study leader and other staff members before undergoing a thoroughly biblical discipleship and training program.

Each Healing Hearts Certified Counselor must meet the qualifications of leadership as specified in I Timothy 3:1-12. All certified counselors must be a participating member of a local church body that believes and teaches the Bible as the inerrant Word of God. The home church of each counselor trainee must apply for affiliation with Healing Hearts before training begins. Training must be completed prior to any Healing Hearts counselor leading a study.

We believe strongly in the principle set forth in 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, which says, “Praise be to the God and Father of compassion and the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the same comfort we ourselves received from God.” For some of our clients, their first question is, “How can you possibly understand?” With confidence, we can say that we do understand because we have also experienced the heartbreak of abortion and other painful, life-altering circumstances. With joy and great faith, we promise hope because we ourselves were wounded and have now been restored by the Word of God. We are walking examples of God’s mercy and grace.

Following this principle of compassionate discipleship, Healing Hearts Ministries will only commission our certified counselors to lead the Bible Studies, which they have themselves completed. In this way, only post-abortive counselors will lead post-abortive clients so that they can comfort “with the same comfort” they have received from God. Additionally, because 43% of the female population in America is post-abortive, we strongly encourage our post-abortive counselors to co-lead in our non-post-abortive studies whenever possible.

Every Healing Hearts Certified Counselor shares our calling and commitment to apply the power of the Cross and God’s Word alone to bring healing, wholeness, and freedom to those whom God has placed in our care.

Overview of Counselor Training and Certification Process:

1. Each recommended trainee must complete a Healing Hearts Training Application and then will be interviewed by a Healing Hearts representative.
2. The trainee’s church must submit a Church Affiliation Agreement for approval.
3. To activate their approved Affiliation and begin training, every trainee or trainee’s church must pay an annual Certification Fee of \$120.
4. Training is conducted online by an assigned Healing Hearts Mentor over an approximately six-month period.

Online Training Modules include:

- Module 1 – Read and Respond to “Spiritual Discipleship,” by J. Oswald Sanders
- Module 2 – Read and Respond to “Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands,” by Paul David Tripp
- Module 3 – Training Homework (Essays on “Grace,” “Faith” and “The Gospel”)
- Module 4 – Read and Respond to “PsychoBabble,” by Richard Ganz
- Module 5 – Training E-Client (counseling simulation exercise)
- Module 6 – Watch and Respond to Video Trainings
- After training modules are complete, new counselors will be supervised while taking their first “live” E-Client through a Healing Hearts study online.
- Recommended advanced training opportunities are available at the annual Healing Hearts National Conference (see below for details).

The Benefits of Healing Heart Affiliation

At its core, Healing Hearts Ministries is a discipleship ministry devoted to identifying with, ministering to, and redeeming the lost and brokenhearted. As God sets hurting men and women in your church free from their past, Healing Hearts will equip them to go and do likewise, just as Christ modeled in the Great Commission.

When your church affiliates with Healing Hearts, your ministry gains...

- **Compassionate Counselors:** Every Healing Hearts Certified Counselor has been a client first, equipping them to comfort with the comfort they themselves have received from God.
- **Solid Biblical Counseling:** Whether one-on-one, in a group study, or through our online Bible study interface, God's Word is central to the Healing Hearts philosophy of ministry. You can be confident that a Healing Hearts Certified Counselor will correctly apply the Scriptures to the underlying heart issues of each client.
- **Training and Support:** Healing Hearts Ministries continually invests in your Healing Hearts Certified Counselor(s) through mentoring, technical support, and ongoing training and development.
- **Real-time Reporting and Communication:** Healing Hearts provides state-of-the-art online communication and management tools to each overseer and their counselors.
 - **“My Admin” Interface** provides overseers with quick, secure access to:
 - Real-time counselor stats, ministry activity, and communication
 - Change counselor’s status (ex: “Leave of Absence” should they move away, or “Inactive” if no longer in good standing with your church)
 - Healing Hearts Support contact information
 - Healing Hearts news, documents, and resources.

– **Counselor Interface** provides certified counselors with quick, secure access to:

- Bible study Group management tools (roster, evaluations)
- Online E-Counseling tools
(for clients who are unable to attend a live group)
- Healing Hearts news, documents, and resources
- Training videos and resources
- Access to Healing Hearts mentor supervision and support
- Easy ordering of materials
- A HealingHearts.org email address
(to protect personal information and maintain counseling integrity).

• **Guest Speakers and Conferences:**

- Healing Hearts Ministries representatives are available to speak at your next retreat or event.
- “*Walking Together*,” a special Mother and Teen Daughter conference presented by Healing Hearts Ministries, is available for your church to host or sponsor.
- For more information on these opportunities, please visit www.healinghearts.org.

In order to provide the ministry tools, resources, and support referenced above, it costs Healing Hearts approximately \$300 per year per counselor. It is our vision to place Healing Hearts Certified Counselors in every Bible-believing church in America, and one day around the world, for the care and growth of God’s church. We humbly ask that your church would prayerfully consider partnering financially with us in our work by adding Healing Hearts to your missions giving. Your church’s financial support can help defray some of these expenses and enable us to continue developing resources, training counselors, and ultimately, reach more hurting people for Jesus Christ. Donations can be made via our website if you feel the Lord leading you to give.

Ministry Costs

- **Cost of Materials**

Healing Hearts Bible study books cost between \$22-25. Most churches charge participants a fee to cover or minimize the cost of materials, and also to help provide scholarships to those who are unable to pay. To ensure that only Healing Hearts Certified Counselors use our materials, each counselor will be required to order Bible studies and literature for their ministry from their Healing Hearts ministry interface online. Please discuss your church's purchasing and reimbursement policies for these materials with your trainee.

- **Annual Certification Fee**

Healing Hearts Certified Counselors must maintain an active certification for an annual fee of \$120.

- **Healing Hearts National Conference** (annual three-day conference held each September)

It is highly recommended that all Healing Hearts Certified Counselors and trainees attend our National Conference each year to benefit from our advanced training and support. Registration cost is approximately \$460 and covers hotel accommodations for Thursday through Saturday, conference materials, and two meals per day. Airfare/travel is not included. We encourage churches to consider helping their counselors attend the National Conference regularly and budget for it as an annual ministry expense.

Organizational Policies

Introduction

We firmly believe that unity of thought, purpose, and action is of the utmost importance within Healing Hearts Ministries. Therefore, it is essential that all individuals associated with this ministry agree to and abide by our general organizational policies. The Healing Hearts Ministries Board of Directors sets all policies.

Purpose

Healing Hearts Ministries is a Christian ministry formed for the purpose of coming alongside the church to disciple and train individuals to minister in their home churches, and to reach out into their local community with the hope and healing that can only be found in the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God. All Healing Hearts Certified Counselors have been healed by God through His Word and have been disciplined in the Word of God to minister to others who are suffering and need help.

Healing Hearts Ministries also provides education and information on abortion and its adverse effects on both the Christian and secular community.

Abortion

Healing Hearts believes that life begins at conception. Because all life is precious and God is the author of life, we do not condone abortion for any reason. Based on the research we have done, we believe the necessity for “therapeutic” abortion is very rare due to today’s medical technology. In the rare situation where the mother’s life is actually threatened, every effort should be made to save the lives of the mother and her unborn baby. As medical technology advances, the unborn will become viable at an increasingly earlier age. God has called us to minister to anyone who has made this very difficult decision for any reason, regardless of the circumstances.

Method of Healing

We believe that sin can be dealt with only at the Cross of Christ. We believe that restoration comes through repentance, and that repentance comes through Jesus Christ. In practicing our ministry of restoration, we advocate only those principles found in the Bible, such as prayer, repentance, forgiveness, etc. We do not use or advocate techniques or methods such as hypnosis, visualization, New Age psychic practices, or inner-healing methods that are not demonstrated in the Bible.

Affiliations

Healing Hearts Ministries is committed to maintaining a cooperative spirit with pro-life organizations and others who oppose abortion. However, Healing Hearts Ministries is an independent ministry and shall not affiliate with any other pro-life ministry outside the church. Neither shall Healing Hearts Ministries be drawn into any internal disputes within the Christian and/or pro-life community. We have been called to minister to the brokenhearted and therefore shall act only in a manner that engenders peace and unity within the body of Christ.

Client Ministry

Over the years, we have learned that in any counseling ministry, it is wise to consider the safety of both the counselor and the client. Below are some suggestions to discuss with your church leadership.

- Group counselors should not meet new clients at the client's home for one-on-one counseling. It is recommended that such meetings take place at the counselor's home church, a local Crisis Pregnancy Center, or, if appropriate, a local restaurant or coffee shop.
- Whenever possible, one-on-one counseling outside the group setting should be done with two counselors present. This provides accountability for the counselor as well as a witness to the nature of the meeting, especially when it may be a confrontational situation.
- Group counselors should not hold group meetings in their own homes unless they have been given permission to do so by their Pastor or ministry leader. A church may grant permission for this if the church does not have a building and there are no other places available for the group to meet.
- When meeting in a private home, the counselor must make sure that group meetings are not interrupted by family members, telephone calls, dogs, etc. They should also ensure the group has privacy and cannot be overheard by a family member or anyone living in the home.

Client Referrals

Healing Hearts is a Christian ministry. The only referrals we make are to reputable Christians, well-grounded in Scripture, who are counselors or Pastors who adhere to and apply biblical principles and agree with our ministry purpose. Before client information can be released to anyone, written approval from the client must be secured.

Second-Hand Client Referrals

We do not recommend that you make the initial contact with a client. The person seeking counsel must contact you directly and request help. Contacting someone you do not know could have consequences that you want to avoid. It could also breach confidentiality if the client's family members do not know that they are seeking help. Below are some examples of second-hand client referrals:

- Someone from a Crisis Pregnancy Center or your church calls and asks you to contact someone who is contemplating having an abortion or someone who has confessed to having an abortion.
- Someone calls and asks you to contact their spouse or friend, who is suffering from sexual abuse, abortion, or other emotional trauma.

- Someone forwards an email from a person who is contemplating an abortion, has post-abortion trauma, or is struggling with other wounds and issues from the past, and asks you to write to them.

We suggest giving several of your business cards to Pastors and ministry leaders in your church. They will then have them available to hand out to potential clients.

Gender-Based Policies for Client Ministry

We believe that men should always counsel men, and women should always counsel women. The only exception would be when a spouse, pastor, or another counselor is present during the session.

Because we hold the marriage covenant to be holy and the Bible tells us to avoid every appearance of evil (1 Thess. 5:22), we believe that no married person should meet alone with a person of the opposite sex in private or public. This policy is important to ensure that all counselors walk in holiness, and to protect the integrity of their ministry (1 Thess. 5:23). If a meeting with someone of the opposite sex is absolutely necessary, then another counselor, a friend of the same sex, a spouse, or a Pastor should accompany them. Also, single women should not meet alone with married men. This rule would apply in, but not be limited to, the following situations:

- Riding in a car to a meeting or transporting someone to and from any location.
- Business meetings in restaurants, church, or at a home.

Communication with Clients

If God has called you to minister to the brokenhearted, then He has called you to respond to needs in a timely manner. In Healing Hearts, we have required our counselors to adhere to a 24-hour response policy. Counselors should respond to all communication within 24 hours, whether it is from a Healing Hearts mentor, church leadership, or a client.

Over the years, we have gained a reputation for our swift response to those in need, and it has earned us a distinction as a ministry that strives for excellence in serving others. When you have been called to minister to broken people, God has called you to lay your life down and do everything in excellence for God's glory.

If you have been selected to serve with our E-Team, you are required to respond to all inquiries within 24 hours. If you fail to respond, you will be put on probation and could be asked to step down from ministering on this team. Our E-Team is a response team that ministers to individuals worldwide who have no other resources available to them. It is a privilege to be part of this team, and all members must adhere to the 24-hour response policy.

E-Client Training Requirement

As part of our discipleship/training process, every new Healing Hearts counselor is strongly encouraged to take one client completely through one of the Healing Hearts Bible Studies online, under the supervision of an Area/State Coordinator, or Regional Director. Following training, new counselors will be asked to identify a potential client from their church or list of personal contacts whom they can take on as their first online client. A mentor will observe their online client interactions to encourage and evaluate the new counselor for future online client eligibility/availability.

Upon completion of 2 to 3 online clients, the counselor will be evaluated again. If they are capable of conducting online ministry with little to no supervision, they may be invited to join our E-Team. Our E-Team is comprised of our best online counselors and falls under the umbrella of the International Ministry. Ask your mentor how you can be considered.

Public Conduct

When representing any Christian ministry, counselors must be gracious and respectful because they represent the Lord. They must be polite and let the love of Jesus show in everything they say and do. Healing Hearts Ministries International does not condone any harassment, foul language, yelling, screaming, physical contact, or damage to property. Conduct should always be non-violent and law-abiding.

Divorce and Leadership

In order to be eligible for counselor training and certification in Healing Hearts Ministries, a divorced client must meet the following requirements:

1. Must have been divorced a minimum of one year prior to entering Discipleship/Training.
2. Must have had biblical grounds for divorce based on the following: *(Scripture quoted from NASB)*

1 Corinthians 7:10-16: *“But to the married I give instructions, not I, but the Lord, that the wife should not leave her husband (but if she does leave, let her remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband should not send his wife away. But to the rest I say, not the Lord, that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, let him not send her away. And a woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he consents to live with her, let her not send her husband away. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy. Yet if the unbelieving one leaves, let him leave; the brother or the sister is not under bondage in such {cases,} but God has called us to peace. For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?”*

Matthew 5:32: *“But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for {the} cause of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”*

Luke 16:18: *“Everyone who divorces his wife and marries commits adultery; and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.”*

3. If the counselor has children, they must be willing to disclose the level of stability within the family unit. (For example, if there is a custody suit in progress, if there is a restraining order in place, or if there are behavioral problems with the children.)
4. Must be willing to give Healing Hearts leadership permission to contact their Pastor, if necessary.

1 Peter 2:13: *“Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority.”*

Hebrews 13:17: *“Obey your leaders, and submit {to them} for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.”*

For a current Healing Hearts counselor involved in a divorce, we highly recommend a minimum sabbatical of one year while receiving counsel from their Pastor.

Sexual Sin

Upon receiving notice that a Healing Hearts counselor or spouse has fallen into sexual sin, we recommend the following procedures take place immediately:

1. If married, the counselor should be placed on Family Leave for a minimum of six months in order to secure the restoration of the marriage. Counseling should take place through the local church of affiliation. If single, the counselor should be placed on a leave and counseling should take place through the local church.
2. Upon notification from the counselor’s church via Healing Hearts’ “My Admin” Interface, the counselor’s E-ministry interface will be locked, and her/his name will be taken off the drop-down menu that advertises groups on the Healing Hearts website.
3. After a six-month leave of absence, should the counselor wish to be reinstated, their church must notify Healing Hearts via the church interface.
4. The counselor’s Area/State Coordinator or Regional Director will be available to pray and encourage them through the restoration process.

If the counselor’s spouse has fallen into sexual sin, the following procedures will immediately take effect:

1. The counselor should be placed on Family Leave for a minimum of six months in order to secure the restoration of the marriage, and counseling should take place through their local church.
2. Upon notification from the counselor’s church via the Healing Hearts’ “My Admin” Interface, the counselor’s E-ministry interface will be blocked, and they will be removed from all ministry assignments. This is to give the counselor time to heal without the additional burden of ministry.
3. The counselor’s Area/State Coordinator or Regional Director will be available to pray and encourage them through the restoration process.

Doctrinal Issues

It is our desire that individuals within Healing Hearts Ministries display respect for all legitimate, Bible-believing Christian denominations and their specific doctrines or beliefs. *(Scripture quoted from NASB)*

John 13:35: *“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

Psalm 133: *“Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! It is like precious oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, coming down upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing – life forever.”*

Since everyone in Healing Hearts Ministries professes belief in Jesus Christ, we desire to respect the various beliefs of our brothers and sisters in Christ that do not conflict with Scripture. We recognize that there are areas for legitimate disagreement among believers but do not feel they hold a place in this ministry. For this reason, individuals involved in Healing Hearts Ministries will refrain from discussing or arguing the following doctrinal points whenever representing the ministry at speaking engagements, conferences, or other corporate group meetings and training sessions:

- Eschatology (differing opinions about the end times, etc.)
- Calvinism, Armenianism, Dispensationalism
- Christian freedoms (smoking, drinking, dancing, etc.)
- Tongues and other Charismatic activities
- Modes of worship

By agreeing not to discuss or quarrel over these doctrinal points, we are not saying they are unimportant. We believe they are important, but that it is simply unrealistic to expect Christians to view all theology the same. This liberates us to labor for Christ even though our doctrinal views may differ. It also frees us to point people to Jesus, not to any one denomination.

If a question or comment related to one of the above topics is raised in a Healing Hearts Ministries meeting, we should discuss our personal beliefs about the matter at a separate time and setting.

After reviewing the Healing Hearts Ministries materials, if you identify any of the above-mentioned doctrinal issues as essential and believe that not being able to discuss them would hinder your ministry, we respectfully ask that you reconsider participating in Healing Hearts Ministries International.

Demonic Activity

Because we believe the Bible is the inerrant Word of God, we believe what it says regarding a personal enemy in the form of Satan and his demons. We believe that confusion, depression, guilt, grief, and even suicidal tendencies are, at times, consequences of sin and may, in some circumstances, open a person to demonic influences. As a result, there are times when additional prayer and counseling may be appropriate. In handling such situations, we must remain scripturally balanced and use discernment so that we don't give credit to a demonic influence in a person's life when the root of their problem is sin.

Use of Technology

- **Email Addresses** (*Healing Hearts email addresses*): Healing Hearts email addresses will be assigned to every certified counselor when they go through training. All certified counselors are required to use their Healing Hearts addresses when doing ministry. Your Coordinators, Directors, and Healing Hearts' office staff will only use your Healing Hearts' email address to communicate with you.
- **Social Media Policy**: We want to keep the highest integrity possible for ministering to clients as well as protecting the privacy of our counselors. This is especially true with respect to the use of social media such as Facebook or Instagram.

When posting a picture of Healing Hearts leaders or counselors on Facebook, please do not tag them or identify them unless you have their permission to do so.

Please do not "friend" a client on Facebook while they are participating in a Healing Hearts study with you as their counselor, whether in a live group or online.

It is absolutely imperative to keep ALL communication between the counselor and their client within the walls of the live group meeting place or within the study online. It is quite easy for a client to ask a "quick question" via Facebook chat or private messaging, which can eventually lead to more study-related communication. These discussions should be kept within the confines of the study or live group.

Political Protest and Social Issues

In taking a Christian stand on the issue of abortion or any other controversial issue (i.e., homosexuality, pornography, etc.), we hold to our commitment to "*speak the truth in love.*" We do not condone violence of any kind and believe it to be counterproductive and inconsistent with the character of Christ.

Healing Hearts Ministries, as an organization, has no political agenda. Our only purpose is to restore the hearts of individuals who have been wounded. Because we respect and believe in an individual's right to be politically active and to protest, we ask that the following policies be respected when doing so.

- **Political activity**: A Healing Hearts volunteer or employee is free to become politically active if:
 1. The activity does not interfere with the ministry or their ability to minister.
 2. They do not discuss their political involvement in Bible study settings. Because we also minister to unbelievers, we must focus group time on salvation, restoration, and reconciliation, rather than politics.

- ***Use of the Healing Hearts Ministries Name:*** The name and logo of Healing Hearts Ministries are registered trademarks. The name, logo, or letterhead of the ministry will not be used to endorse any political activity or campaign. The name and/or logo of Healing Hearts Ministries is not to be worn on clothing, on the body, or displayed on signs and banners during marches or demonstrations against abortion or any other controversial issue, or used in any fashion without first obtaining permission from the Executive Director. Due to the apparent use of tattoos as a witness tool, we must include tattoos as a violation of our trademark status.
- ***Picketing:*** Healing Hearts Ministries will not picket as an organization; however, those who wish to may do so individually or with other organizations. When representing yourself or another organization, you are still representing Jesus Christ and are still associated with Healing Hearts Ministries. Therefore, your conduct should always be gracious, non-violent, and should glorify Jesus at all times.
- ***Marches:*** Healing Hearts Ministries may participate in those marches and demonstrations that are done in a spirit of love. Always use discernment. If participating in such an event would close a door to ministering to the unsaved in your community, refrain from doing so. Use wisdom! Our goal is to reach hurting people for Jesus Christ.

Leave of Absence (LOA)

The counselor's church overseer or Healing Hearts Mentor is responsible for determining a counselor's LOA status, which can be managed through their respective interfaces. A counselor's status is very important because of client referrals from the Healing Hearts website. Please be diligent to keep the status of all counselors up-to-date.

1. **LOAF - Leave of Absence Family:** Personal request, illness, or death of a family member.
2. **LOAM - Leave of Absence Marriage:** Healing Hearts holds marriage as a sacred covenant between a husband, wife, and God. Because of the importance of this covenant, we recommend that newly married individuals abstain from ministry for a period of at least one year from the date of their marriage. If a counselor currently serves in the ministry and then gets married, we recommend a one-year sabbatical, unless special permission is granted. If someone is contemplating entering counselor training as a newlywed, we recommend that they wait a period of one year after the date of their marriage to pursue ministry, with their spouse's blessing.
3. **LOAP - Leave of Absence Pregnancy:** Up to 6 months. Healing Hearts believes that godly priorities must be maintained in order to serve in the ministry. Therefore, we recommend that anyone who has given birth or adopted a child should take at least a six-month sabbatical from the ministry.
4. **LOAR - Leave of Absence Relocation.** If a counselor leaves their affiliated church for any reason, they will be placed on LOAR for a minimum of 6 months to allow time for them to establish a relationship with a new church before pursuing an Affiliation Transfer.
5. **INACTIVE:** Once a counselor has been placed on "Inactive" status, they will be locked out of their Healing Hearts interface and email and will no longer be able to purchase and use Healing Hearts materials. The only way this counselor can be reinstated is if a new church applies for affiliation on their behalf. Depending on the circumstance, this counselor may be asked to retake training.

Qualifications for Certified Counselors

Healing Hearts is the Lord's ministry. Those involved submit, individually and corporately, to His authority, understanding that Jesus is the Lord of their lives. To serve the Lord is constantly humbling and a great joy.

As we serve the Lord, we must always be mindful of what the scriptures require of us as counselors in ministry. We recommend that you review these scriptural requirements from time to time and allow the Lord to direct you as you serve Him. There may be times in ministry when we are not following these guidelines and may need to excuse ourselves for a time until our lives are revived spiritually. If this is ever the situation in your own life, please talk with your Pastor or Overseer at your church to see if it would be appropriate for you to take a Leave of Absence.

The following areas need careful, prayerful consideration before anyone chooses to represent the Lord in ministry. These guidelines may not apply to you; we ask that you consider those that do.

May the Lord guide you as you pray over these scriptural guidelines. They are not meant to exclude or discourage anyone. Rather, they are meant to help determine the Lord's will for you along the way as you serve Him. Please realize that no one has "arrived" spiritually; however, all should be growing in the Lord every day and becoming more Christ-like. May the peace of God rule in your heart as you seek to do His will.

Healing Hearts Certified Counselors...

- must be a born-again Christian, having found salvation in Jesus Christ. This is absolutely essential as restoration from sin can come only from the Lord. Human measures cannot deal with sin. (John 3:3, Romans 3:23-24; Galatians 5:19-21)
- must have acknowledged personal responsibility for sin, including but not limited to the sin of abortion. (We realize there are degrees of responsibility; some women were forced to have abortions or were the victims of sexual or physical abuse.) We must each face God and be accountable for our own actions. (Exodus 20:13; Proverbs 6:16-19)
- must be repentant of the sin of abortion and all other sins that accompany it. Abortion is rarely an isolated sin. Its foundation is usually fornication or adultery and is often accompanied by rebellion, deceit, lust, lies, etc. The Holy Spirit will help identify which applies to each individual. (Luke 13:3; 1 Corinthians 7:10)
- must have examined their heart and be free from anger, unforgiveness, and bitterness, according to the principles outlined in Scripture. While we all experience these from time to time, refusing to repent of these attitudes not only keeps a person in bondage but can also defile others around them and hinder spiritual growth. (Hebrews 12:14)
- must have experienced restoration through God's principles of forgiveness and must be willing to extend that forgiveness to others. (I John 1:9; Matthew 6:12-15)
- must always give God the glory for the restoration. (Jude 1:25)

- must show evidence of ongoing growth and maturity in their Christian walk. No person is perfect, but we do need to be growing in the Lord in all our attitudes and deeds. (Hebrews 6:1)
- must love God and their fellow man according to the scriptures. (Matthew 22:37-39; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7)
- must display the fruit of God's Spirit in their lives. (Galatians 5:22-26)
- must be humble. (Isaiah 66:2)
- must be teachable. (Proverbs 12:1)
- must be willing to submit to those in leadership. (Hebrews 13:17)
- must acknowledge that Healing Hearts Ministries is the Lord's ministry and that they are His servant. (I Peter 4:10-11)
- must have pure motives for seeking leadership in Healing Hearts Ministries. Often, an individual wants to do good works to make up for past mistakes/sins; your motivation must be the result of God calling you. (Romans 12:1-2)
- must understand the true spiritual nature of the battles we are fighting and that the true enemy is Satan, not any group or individual. (Ephesians 6:10-12; I Peter 5:8-9)
- if married, must obtain their spouse's blessing. The ministry of Healing Hearts often involves much time and effort, depending on the level of leadership. We do not want to cause discord in relationships. (Ephesians 5:22-24; Ephesians 5:25, 18, 33) If single and living independently, they must seek counsel from someone in Christian leadership in their home church. (I Peter 5:5)
- must be willing to spend time in preparation to serve effectively. The requirements may vary according to the area of ministry. (I Peter 3:15-16)
- must always represent Healing Hearts Ministries in an honest and truthful manner. The foundation of the ministry is Jesus Christ; therefore, the ministry is based upon biblical truth. Credibility is essential for all those who represent this ministry. (Hebrews 13:18)
- must agree with our Statement of Faith and our Ministry Philosophy that "the Word of God is sufficient for all things." (Amos 3:3; 1 Timothy 4:16)
- must maintain an active certification with Healing Hearts Ministries.
- must maintain an active Healing Hearts Affiliation Agreement with a home church.

Appendix I: Healing Hearts Statement of Faith

1. We believe in one God, eternally existent in three Persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe the Holy Bible to be the inspired, eternal, authoritative, and infallible Word of God.
3. We believe in the deity of Jesus, the only Son of God, and that He is the express image of God. We believe in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, and in His bodily resurrection from the dead to win victory over death. We believe in His ascension to Heaven, where He sits at the right hand of God.
4. We believe that Jesus is the Lamb of God offered up as a sacrifice to take away the sins of the world. We believe that no one can be saved by any other name than Jesus Christ.
5. We believe that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, but that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness.
6. We believe every Believer has the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of the body of Christ. We believe we are called to be God's army, clothed in His armor, shielded by faith, and armed with His Word.

Appendix II: National Advisors

Two very important elements of the governing structure of Healing Hearts Ministries are its Pastoral Advisory Board and National Board of Directors. When Healing Hearts Ministries was formed, the Lord made it very clear that for this ministry to be one of integrity, it needed oversight by godly men and women who share the vision of the ministry.

It is not uncommon for advisory boards to be compiled of individuals who offer their name only for endorsement purposes, but that is not the case with our Pastoral Advisory Board. Each member plays a vital role in guiding and directing the ministry to which God has called us. They serve on the board because they strongly believe in the ministry and feel called to serve in this area. Each has made himself available to the ministry leaders to give input and advice whenever it is needed. Each Pastor listed is actively involved in reviewing our literature, Bible studies, informational packets, and financial statements.

Pastoral Advisory Board

Pastor James Amandus, *Highlands Community Church (Renton, Washington)*

Dr. Joseph Fuiten, *Cedar Park Assembly of God (Redmond, Washington)*, retired

Pastor Alex Ohlsen, *Renton Christian Center (Renton, Washington)*

Pastor Mike McDonald, *Faith Church (Rio Rancho, New Mexico)*

Pastor Wayne Taylor, *Calvary Fellowship (Mountlake Terrace, Washington)*, retired

National Advisory Board

Dr. Rosaria Butterfield, Speaker & Author

Dr. Heath Lambert, Senior Pastor, *First Baptist Church of Jacksonville*

Dr. Georgia Purdom, Director, *Answers for Women (Answers in Genesis / Creation Museum)*

Dr. Mark Shaw, Pastor of Counseling, *First Baptist Church of Jacksonville at Nocatee*
Founder of *The Addiction Connection*

Board of Directors

Sue Liljenberg, Founder & Board Member

Sue is the Founding Director of Healing Hearts Ministries International. Sue personally experienced an abortion in 1972 at the age of 18, and for many years suffered both emotionally and physically. In 1982, she was given hope for her life when someone loved her enough to tell her about Jesus and how He died on a cross to pay the penalty for her sin. Sue received Jesus into her life, but she knew there was something keeping her from a deeper walk with God —something that kept her thoughts captive and ruled her life. That something was her abortion, and the realization that she took the life of the only baby she would ever conceive. After seeking help from physicians and psychologists with no lasting results, she turned to the only source that she knew: the God who saved her and His Word.

For several years, God walked Sue through the Scriptures. As she learned the truth in God's Word regarding her sin, who she was in Christ, and how much God loved her, powerful healing came. Sue longed to show other women how they, too, could become whole again. She began writing a Bible Study titled "Binding Up the Brokenhearted" so that other women could walk the road she had already walked and find hope and healing for their lives.

After several years of counseling post-abortive women, Sue decided it was time to train these women so they could reach out and help others. In 1988, the ministry was formed. A local Pastoral Advisory Board and a Board of Directors were assembled to oversee the ministry and provide biblical accountability. Within several years, the ministry was transformed from a kitchen table-top ministry to one serving the needs of women and men throughout the Puget Sound area of Western Washington. In 1997, the name *Healing Hearts* was trademarked, and the ministry began to broaden its geographical scope.

The Healing Hearts post-abortion study for women, *Binding Up the Brokenhearted*, and its counterpart for men, *Restoring a Father's Heart* (formerly *Wounded Warrior*), have been taught to thousands with outstanding results. Not only do individuals receive healing through these studies, but many come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior and are serving Him in various areas of ministry.

After witnessing God's blessing on her post-abortive studies, Sue developed a third study, *The Hem of His Garment*, to reach women who have not had abortions but have seen their lives broken as a result of other forms of sin. In addition, *The Good Fight* has been written for men who have not participated in abortion but have suffered from other forms of sin. By God's grace, Healing Hearts has seen great success ministering to men and women with these studies, and the non-post-abortive branch of the ministry is growing rapidly.

John Mulvey, Board Chairman

John attended Western Illinois University, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Business degree. John has been working in the Logistics Industry for over 39 years, holding various senior management roles. John is currently the Chief Operating Officer of Trudell Trailer Sales. He has been married to Cathy (a Healing Hearts Regional Director) for over 34 years, and they have two adult daughters, Carrie and Drea. John and Cathy are members of Hope Community Church in Marana, Arizona.

Tracy Bashore, Secretary & Treasurer

Tracy has worked as a software engineer and manager for IBM and, most recently, retired after ten years as Executive Director of Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch, a nonprofit camp and conference center that serves military families and individuals and families with disabilities. He lives in Rochester, MN, with his wife, Julie, a Healing Hearts Regional Director. They have been married for 35 years and have three adult married children and four grandchildren. Tracy is currently training to become a Healing Hearts Certified Counselor and believes in the mission of Healing Hearts because he witnessed the impact it made on Julie's life, their marriage and family. They are members of Northbridge church in Rochester. Tracy enjoys golf, fishing, and cooking/catering.

Eric Anderson, Member-at-Large

Eric has a BS in Engineering Science from Colorado State University, as well as a Master's degree in Engineering Management from the University of Colorado. Eric has been an aerospace engineer and an engineering manager for over 35 years, supporting NASA, the Missile Defense Agency, and the United States Space Force in developing and launching all sorts of unmanned rockets. Eric has served as an elder at Faith Church in Rio Rancho, NM for 18 years. He preaches regularly and has also been involved with men's ministry, missions, small group leadership, and youth ministry. Eric was widowed in 2018 and married Linda Padilla Anderson (a Healing Hearts Certified Counselor) in 2022. In 2025, Eric also became a Healing Hearts Certified Counselor. Eric has two sons, Aaron and Aiden, a daughter, Emily, and nine grandchildren.

Tish Peterson, Member-at-Large

Letitia ("Tish") Peterson attended North Park University in Chicago, Illinois, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance. She has extensive experience in accounting and banking, including work in estate settlement and trust account management. Tish previously served on staff with Healing Hearts Ministries International as Chief Financial Officer for three years, bringing valuable financial oversight and stewardship to the organization. She has been married to her husband, Kyle, for 27 years, and together they have three daughters: Brittany, Samantha, and Trinity. Kyle and Tish reside in Rio Rancho, New Mexico—home of the Healing Hearts office—and have been active members of Faith Church Rio Rancho for over 23 years.

Appendix III: Ministry Statistics

- Healing Hearts has served over 23,000 clients to date, including 14,000 clients in “live” groups, 6,400 online, and 3,000 young adults.
- We have trained 600 former clients as Healing Hearts Certified Counselors, with 170 counselors currently leading “live” groups and online studies.
- Healing Hearts Ministries has developed six comprehensive Bible-based studies, including studies for post-abortive women and men, a study for men and women affected by sinful circumstances, and studies for young women, young men, and teens.
- Healing Hearts Ministries has a presence in 30 States across the country and at least 10 other Countries.
- Healing Hearts studies have been translated into Bulgarian, German, Kurdish, Lugandan, Mandarin Chinese, Romanian, Russian, and Spanish.
- 100 affiliated churches are served by Healing Hearts Certified Counselors.
- In addition to local churches, Healing Hearts Counselors and study groups can be found in numerous women’s prisons and pregnancy resource centers.
- Close to 20,000 hours are served annually by Healing Hearts volunteers, with an equivalent monetary value of nearly \$600,000.

These statistics provide a “big picture” glimpse of the growth and direction of Healing Hearts Ministries over the years since its beginning.

Appendix IV: Overview of Post-Abortion Symptoms

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia, about 1.5 million abortions are performed each year since legalization in 1973. These abortion statistics do not account for the popular use of “morning after” pills or other chemical at-home abortion techniques, which are being used at an alarming rate. Additionally, these abortion statistics account only for the lives of the children. They do not account for the millions who still live in pain as a result of their sin. Those individuals are commonly referred to as “Abortion’s Second Victim” or “The Walking Wounded.” They include the woman who has had an abortion, the father of the aborted baby, sisters, brothers, parents, grandparents, and medical professionals.

Many men and women choose abortion, thinking it will relieve them of their difficult situation, when in fact it only leads to a new set of problems. The aftermath of abortion will almost always manifest in serious and complex ways in a person’s life. Below we have listed some of the most common symptoms:

| | |
|--|--|
| Emotional: | |
| Anxiety/Panic Attacks | Fear that others will find out |
| Feelings of numbness | Fear of never having other children |
| Depression | Fear of losing the children they have |
| Grief/loss | Fear of retribution from God |
| Regret/sorrow | Distrust of men |
| Hopelessness | Distrust of doctors |
| Guilt | Anger/rage Bitterness |
| Self-hatred | Feeling like you are going crazy |
| Feelings of isolation/alienation (confusion) | Feeling uncomfortable around infants, children, and pregnant women |
| Physical: | |
| Miscarriage | Infections |
| Stillbirth | Endometriosis |
| Infertility/sterility | Long difficult labor |
| Irregular menstruation | Cervical pain |
| Pelvic Inflammatory Disease | Uterine Scarring |
| | Colon problems |
| Behaviors: | |
| Frequent crying | Hallucinations/flashbacks |
| Insomnia | Inability to bond with children |
| Child abuse or neglect | Suicidal thoughts/actions |
| Overprotective parenting | Drug and alcohol abuse |
| Obsessive thoughts about the aborted baby | Sexual inhibition |
| Vivid nightmares | Promiscuity |
| | Eating disorders |