INSERT · FOR CHURCHES AND MINISTRIES

# Walking With Someone Into Recovery

Pastors and church families are often the first to know. Someone stops coming, a family member asks for prayer and can't say the rest, or a person finally tells you the truth after a service. You don't have to carry that alone, and you don't have to become their counselor. You can walk with them to help.

## What House Shalom is, for a church

House Shalom is The Becoming Agency's substance use treatment program for adults and teens, at intensive outpatient (ASAM 2.1) and outpatient (1.0) levels. It is a Christian faith-based program, built on one conviction: when the script underneath a life changes, the story can change too. *Shalom* means wholeness, nothing broken and nothing missing, and that is the goal.

- **Faith is woven in, never forced.** Scripture and prayer appear in clearly marked panels throughout the workbooks. Clients of any faith or none take part on equal terms, and anyone may substitute their own understanding of a Higher Power. We disclose all of this in writing before admission.
- **Clinical care comes first.** Addiction counselors under licensed clinical supervision deliver treatment grounded in cognitive behavioral therapy, attachment and trauma-informed care. Faith adds to the truth; it never replaces treatment.
- **Grace, not shame.** A lapse is treated as part of the work, never as a reason to cast someone out. That is a posture a church can share.

## How a church can help

- **Say it simply.** "I'm not going anywhere. Would you be willing to talk to someone who does this every day? I'll help you make the call."
- **Make the call together.** Sit with them while they call (605) 453-6764, or fax our referral form with them.
- **Help with the practical things.** We don't provide transportation. A dependable ride three times a week can decide whether someone finishes. Meals, childcare during group and a quiet place to study the workbook help too.
- **Keep a seat warm.** Recovery is lonely. A standing invitation to a small group, a meal or a recovery-friendly fellowship tells someone they still belong.
- **Pray without pressure.** Ask before you pray with someone, and let "not today" be a full answer.
- **Know the emergency signs.** If someone can't be woken, is breathing very slowly or has blue lips, call 911. Naloxone (Narcan) reverses an opioid overdose and is safe to give. Keeping it at church is a good idea.

## What we can and can't share with you

Federal law (42 CFR Part 2) protects substance use treatment records more strictly than other health records. **We can't confirm to a pastor or church that someone is in our care unless they sign a release that names you.** Our Referral Partner Release covers that. With it, we can tell you what the person allows, and you can encourage them by name.

---

**To refer or to talk it through:** call or text (605) 453-6764 · fax (605) 401-4086 · HouseShalom@thebecomingagency.com · House Shalom, The Becoming Agency, 3409 W. 47th Street, Suite 102, Sioux Falls, SD 57106. **In a crisis:** call or text 988.