

RESTORE



AFTER ABORTION

Volunteer Information

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Restore After Abortion.

We developed this booklet to inform you about our organization and the different volunteering opportunities that are available. This booklet is intended to help you determine if you are indeed a good fit for this ministry. We ask that you prayerfully and carefully review this information. All volunteers must read and be in full agreement with our Statements of Faith and Principle.

After reading through this entire packet, please complete the Restore Volunteer Application. When the application is ready to submit, please email it to holly@restoreafterabortion.com or mail it to:

Avenue Women's Center
Attention: Director of Restore
1301 S Route 59, Suite 103
Naperville, Il. 60564

If you have any questions, please call or text us at 630-599-0043.

Thank you!

Holly Zak

Holly Zak
Director of Restore

Statement of Faith

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life and to perform good works.
5. We believe in the resurrection of life, and those that are lost, are lost unto damnation.
6. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Statement of Principle

FAITH

We are an outreach ministry of Jesus Christ through His church. Therefore, embodied in its volunteers, is committed to presenting the gospel of our Lord – both in word and in deed. Commensurate with this purpose, those who labor as volunteers are expected to know Christ as their Savior and Lord.

ACCURACY

We are committed to providing our clients with accurate and complete information about both prenatal development and abortion.

HONESTY

We are committed to integrity in dealing with clients, earning their trust and providing promised information and services. We denounce any form of deception in advertising or individual conversations with clients.

PRACTICAL SUPPORT

We are committed to assisting clients by providing emotional support and practical assistance.

IMPARTIALITY

We do not discriminate in providing services because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, or marital status.

LIFE AFFIRMING

We do not recommend, provide, or refer for abortion or abortifacients.

FREE OF CHARGE

We offer assistance free of charge at all times.

Statement of Principle (Continued)

EDUCATIONAL

We are committed to creating awareness within the local community of the needs of pregnant women, and of the fact that abortion only compounds human need rather than resolving it.

ABSTINENCE PROMOTING

We do not recommend, provide, or refer single women for contraceptives. (Married women seeking contraceptive information should be urged to seek counsel, along with their husbands, from their pastor and physician.)

ADOPTION SUPPORTING

We recognize the validity of adoption as one alternative to abortion, but are not biased toward adoption when compared to the other life-saving alternatives. Our Centers are independent of adoption agencies, relating to them in the same manner as to other helpful referral sources. Pregnancy care centers receive no payment of any kind from these agencies, do not enter into contractual relationships with them and do not share combined office space. Adoption agencies are not established under the auspices of centers. Pregnancy care centers neither initiate nor facilitate independent adoptions, though they may refer for independent adoptions in states where it is legal.

Restore After Abortion Volunteer Opportunities

As a first step in the volunteer process, please fill out the Restore Volunteer Application in order to be considered for any of the following positions.

1. **Post Abortion Recovery Leader**- Restore leaders are on the front lines of abortion recovery where people share their pain, grieve their loss, and find healing and freedom. This position assists clients who are struggling with post abortion stress and will help lead them through a 10-14 week Bible study, either in a 1:1 or small group format. More details are on the following pages of this informational packet.
2. **Marketing/Outreach** -
 - Blog Contributor - Help contribute to content posted on the Restore website.
 - Church Liaison - Help your church get connected to or stay updated on the Restore program.
 - Bible Study Outreach - Reach out to your Bible study contacts to let them know about the Restore program. Arrange for Restore to present to Bible study groups.
 - Marketing Assistant- Help with generating new marketing ideas or assisting in marketing efforts.
3. **Prayer Team Member** – Participate in a weekly prayer call (typically held from 9:40-10:00am on Fridays) to pray for clients, volunteers, and ministry needs.
4. **Office Coverage**- Be a second person in the office so that Restore clients can be seen for intakes or 1:1 client sessions. This is typically during the weeknights and on an “as-needed” basis.
5. **Testimony Speakers** - Share your experience about Restore to women’s Bible study groups or the impact abortion had on your life to pregnancy clients considering abortion. This is on an “as-needed” basis.

POST ABORTION RECOVERY LEADER INFORMATION

EXPECTATIONS OF A RESTORE LEADER:

- A mature, consistent walk with Jesus Christ. Involved in a local church fellowship on a regular basis.
- A definite sense of God's calling to the position.
- Confirmation of that calling by trusted friends/leaders.
- Support of spouse/family.
- Many who enter this ministry are post-abortive. Though it isn't necessary to have experienced an abortion, it is necessary to have experienced healing in a grief issue in his/her life. If post-abortive, it is necessary to complete the Restore program so as to fully work through the healing issues of abortion.
- Comfortable with displays of strong emotions.
- Flexible and harmonious spirit.
- Filled with courage and perseverance.
- Loving and compassionate attitude.
- A basic ability in helping/listening skills.
- In full agreement with our Statement of Faith and Statement of Principle.
- Willing to serve in accordance with our Core Values.
- Willing to be transparent and vulnerable.
- Willing to examine own assumptions regarding men and women who have been involved in abortion(s).
- Previous peer counseling experience is helpful.
- Willing to maintain a teachable spirit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A RESTORE LEADER:

- Meet with Restore Director prior to start of group along with co-leader.
- Attend pre- and post- group sessions for prayer, planning, and sharing observations.
- Prepare the meeting room ahead of time to provide a safe, comfortable environment. Be responsible to leave the room the way you found it.
- Enlist a prayer partner – this is essential!
- Attend all group sessions.
- Facilitate a safe, accepting climate within the group and give participants opportunity to contribute to the healing of other members.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- Help participants plan for a memorial service at the conclusion of the group if desired.
- Be a team player. Develop and maintain good relationships with other Restore leaders (Co-leaders will support the direction of the group, as set by the leader).
- Consult regularly with Restore Director regarding progress of the group/clients.
- Do weekly write-ups according to the standard set and submit to Restore Director.
- Submit end of group report to Director.
- Be willing to follow- up with clients as determined after the group is finished.
- Adhere to guidelines for leading a group as set forth in the Restore training.

PROCESS TO BECOMING A RESTORE LEADER:

In order to prepare our client-interaction volunteers, we have a somewhat lengthy process of trainings that are required. Here is a brief summary of the basic structure leading up to interacting with clients:

- 30-minute volunteer interest meeting with Restore Director, either in-person or on Zoom
- Fill out a Restore volunteer packet. Must agree with our Statement of Faith, Statement of Principle, and Core Values.
- Complete a 6-hour Introduction training.
- Complete 20-hour Restore After Abortion training.
- Mandated reporting training: Certify once every 3 years
- Pass a criminal background check
- Provide three character references
- 1-hour Interview with Restore Director
- If post abortive, complete the Restore program as a client (10-14 sessions)
- If pass all requirements and volunteering program is the right fit, start with being a co-leader in a client group.
- Meet with director to discuss progress, concerns, etc.
- Additional meetings with director and a volunteer leader are required.
- With sufficient experience, the director will recommend a move into the role of Restore leader.
- Yearly in-services provide additional training opportunities.

RESTORE LEADER SUPPORT: RESTORE DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Field all initial inquiries from potential clients.
2. Conduct individual client intakes.
3. Coordinate the Bible study groups, after interacting with clients and leaders to form and schedule groups.
4. Coordinate with Center Directors for site access to hold meetings.
5. Print materials and distribute along with study guides to group leaders.
6. Collect write-ups from leaders ensuring that they adhere to Restore standards and maintain carefully guarded client files.
7. Provide leadership and support for leaders by maintaining regular communication with Restore team.
8. Provide prayer support.

As a Restore leader, it's important to know you're not alone. It is our desire to help you grow as a leader and encourage you however we can. We will help you set up and maintain the group, field questions, assist with interpersonal difficulties and provide resources. We are available for one-on-one meetings, whether it's for counsel, prayer, or just to talk. We'll provide you with information about any ongoing training opportunities, seminars, and other resources.

TESTIMONY OF A RESTORE LEADER AND FORMER PARTICIPANT:

“Restore is a confidential, safe place where women and men can share their innermost feelings about past abortions without fear of judgment or condemnation, and hopefully find the same spiritual and emotional healing many have experienced. The group can help you experience God's love and compassion on a profound level. It creates a place where men and women can share, often for the first time, their feelings about abortion. You are allowed to dismantle troubling secrets in an environment of emotional and spiritual safety. Restore is therapy for the soul. Participants, who have been trapped in anger toward themselves or others, experience

forgiveness. Peace is found. Lives are restored. A sense of hope and meaning for the future is finally re-discovered.”

RESTORE CURRICULUM:

Our curriculum includes abortion recovery workbooks by Linda Cochrane (Forgiven and Set Free/Healing a Father’s Heart) and Jenny McDermid (Living in Color). Topics include:

- Relief and Denial
- Anger
- Forgiveness
- Depression
- Letting Go
- Acceptance

Additionally, you will be provided with supplemental handouts and videos to assist you and the clients with the sessions.

We hope that this booklet has been helpful. Being a Restore group leader can be one of the most intense and gratifying ministries you’ll ever be involved in. You’ll be encouraged seeing God healing hearts through the power of the Word and the encouragement of others who have walked the same path. But it can also be challenging and so it’s important to know you’re not alone. We are a team working together with a loving God who promises to empower and instruct us as we are faithful to follow His call on our lives.

We encourage you to take this information and prayerfully consider whether this is what God is calling you to this client-interaction leader position. And again, please call if you have any questions or concerns.