



THE ROLE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY



Want to learn more about SAFE Communities?
Download our
COMMUNITY PLAYBOOK

Faith-based communities contribute to improving access to essential services. Furthermore, they can leverage their convening power to unite diverse stakeholders, reduce conflict, build trust, and enhance communication across various sectors, like government, non-profit organizations, academia, and the private sector.



Secure Funding

Secure funds for naloxone inclusion in first aid kits, with staff training and post-administration support.



Collaborate

Connect with the faith community leaders who operate in local jails and prisons.



Speak Up

Normalize talking openly about well-being, mental health, and substance use.



Engage the Youth

Offer a youth group or an alternative outlet and safe space for youth on the evenings or weekends.



Provide Space

Offer space for peer recovery specialists and social workers to provide regular place-based services.



Programs

Speak at theology programs about the faith-based approach to support individuals and peer faith leaders affected by substance use and mental health.



Save a Life

Collaborate with community partners, such as police, schools, and non-profits, to hold trainings for overdose reversal and Mental Health First Aid.



Establish

Setup on-site harm reduction vending machine, work with community counterparts, and participate in local stakeholder groups.



Team Effort

Create an interfaith chaplain team to support overdose victims and connect them to community resources.

SAFE PROJECT RECOMMENDED BOOKS



➤ PARENTS

AGE: 18+

- The Addiction Inoculation by Jessica Lahey

➤ ADULTS

AGE: 18+

- Chasing the Scream: The First and Last Days of the War on Drugs by Johann Hari
- The Urge: Our History of Addiction by Carl Erik Fisher
- Undoing Drugs: How Harm Reduction is Changing the Future of Drugs and Addiction by Maia Szalavitz
- Unbroken Brain: A Revolutionary New Way of Understanding Addiction by Maia Szalavitz
- Myth of Normal: Trauma, Illness, and Healing in a Toxic Culture by Daniel Mate and Gabor Mate
- In Pain: A Bioethicist's Personal Struggle with Opioids by Travis Rieder
- Never Enough: The Neuroscience and Experience of Addiction by Judith Grisel
- Drug Use for Grown-Ups: Chasing Liberty in the Land of Fear by Dr. Carl L. Hart

➤ MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

AGE: 12-17

- A Better High by Matt Bellace
- Life is Disappointing and Other Inspiring Thoughts by Matt Bellace
- Talk Ugly and Other Poems by Joseph Green

➤ YOUNG CHILDREN

AGE: 10-11

- Lambi Learns About Addiction by Trish Luna
- Timbi Talks About Addiction by Trish Luna
- My Brother Is Not a Monster by Lee Varon
- Someone I Love Died from a Drug Overdose by Melody Ray