



Helping Churches and Children's Ministries become Trauma-Competent

Goal #1: To decrease the isolation and rejection of kids from hard places and the sacrificial parents who care for them.

Goal #2: To increase trauma-competency in churches so to welcome in kids from hard places - as Jesus asks us to.

For Church Leaders:

1. Leadership Orientation:
 - a. Decide which 2-3 leaders you want to train alongside you
 - b. Watch the Playlist: [Trauma Competent Caregiving Church Ministry](#) - 1 hour and 45 minutes at your own pace
 - c. Meet with Isaiah's Place staff to digest and mull over strategies
2. Meet with team:
 - a. Have volunteer/staff watch a video or the playlist prior to meeting
 - b. 3-4 leaders and Isaiah's Place staff present and reinforce these ideas to staff/volunteers in one large meeting
 - c. Post the two images in your classrooms:
 - i. [When We Serve Kids](#)
 - ii. [Be Peace in Chaos](#)
3. Leadership coaches your volunteers/staff through:
 - a. Role-Modeling
 - b. Check-ins on behavior
 - c. Using scripts over and over again
 - d. Coaching volunteers/staff weekly
 - e. If needed, mandate a volunteer/staff to watch additional videos
 - f. Invite staff/volunteers to Isaiah's Place Quarterly Christ-Community Convening to share thoughts/feelings and get additional resources
4. Decide on next-steps as a way of helping your staff/volunteers stay fresh
 - a. More videos
 - b. Training at Isaiah's Place
 - c. Begin recruiting additional help from the congregation
 - i. Finding "one-on-one" helpers who don't want to be in a large classroom, but wouldn't mind entertaining an especially dysregulated child
 - d. Invite and attend a community-wide gathering with Back2Back Ministries to go deeper into trauma-competent caregiving

For staff/volunteer:

1. Watch video(s) sent by leaders

2. Attend collaborative trauma-competent training
3. Utilize tools/strategies presented and ask a lot of questions
4. Recruit friends into being “one-on-one” helpers for especially challenging children
5. If interested in going deeper:
 - a. Read a book provided by staff
 - b. Watch additional videos at <https://www.isaiahsplace.com/videos>
 - c. Go to Isaiah’s Place Quarterly Meeting

Additional resources:

1. The Connection Small Group Series
2. Books