BeFriender Ministry
A Listening Presence

CREATING CARING COMMUNITIES

Foundations for BeFriender Ministry

BeFriender Ministry is a national, ecumenical non-profit organization that provides training and ongoing support for a listening ministry of care.

2026 - 2027

Virtual Workshop Description

Participate from the comfort of your home or office.

"Foundations for BeFriender Ministry" is a workshop for teams who want to implement and maintain a listening ministry of pastoral care and support in their church, hospital, senior living community including all levels of care, or other organization. The small size of this highly interactive workshop allows workshop leaders to address the specific needs and questions of participants. A certified trainer from the BeFriender Ministry National Office will be the workshop leader.

What Participants are Saying

"I encourage any congregation to receive this training! It was well organized and very user friendly. We all feel prepared and excited to begin this Caring Ministry that we feel has the power to transform our congregation."
- Pastor Dan

"We are living in a unique, stressful, anxious time that BeFriender Ministry is uniquely qualified to respond to."
- Deb

"The training was outstanding. I really enjoyed the virtual format. The pace was excellent, and I felt connected to all the participants. It is very empowering to build our program during this unusual time." - Jean

"Our virtual training experience was excellent! The workshop was well organized and time went quickly! We felt engaged in the training and connected to the other participants and our leader. I would recommend the virtual experience to everyone!" - Joan

Who Attends

A team of 2-5 from your church or organization including at least one staff person such as (clergy, chaplain, deacon, faith community nurse, director of pastoral care, pastoral minister, etc.) and one or more volunteers. This team will serve as program leaders for BeFriender Ministry in your church or organization. New program leaders for existing BeFriender Ministry programs also attend the workshop.

Workshop Objectives

- Receive the tools and training for implementing and maintaining a listening ministry of pastoral care.
- Understand the role of the BeFriender by experiencing the training you will provide for BeFrienders in your church or organization. The listening skills learned are transferable to family, friend and colleague relationships.
- Learn a discernment process for calling forth BeFriender Ministers.
- Learn skills for facilitating skill-building and spiritual growth for BeFrienders.
- Understand the roles of the Leadership Team: trainer, facilitator, and administrator.
- Gain insights from workshop leaders who model effective training.

Workshop Schedule on Reverse Side

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Virtual Workshop Dates and Fees

Workshop held each day 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Central Time

Workshop Dates - 2026	Early Bird Rate Ends	Registration Fees Per Person
October 1, 15, 29, November 5	August 27	Early Bird ---------- $849 After Early Bird ------- $925 **Included in Fees:** Fees include a full set of leader materials and shipping costs for each participant. Materials will be shipped directly to each participant.
Workshop Dates - 2027		
January 28, February 6, 18, 27	December 23	
April 13, 20, 27, May 4	March 9	
May 19, June 9, 16, 23	April 14	
Additional Dates Will Be Added		

Register Online at: www.befrienderministry.org

More Information

Go to www.befrienderministry.org

- View "About" and "Getting Started" for additional information.
- Select "Contact Us" to request a packet of information about BeFriender Ministry

Questions?

Contact the BeFriender Ministry National Office:

952-767-0244

1-866-468-8708

info@befrienderministry.org

www.befrienderministry.org

When someone feeling alone and isolated experiences a caring connection;
when a woman with an aging parent suffering from dementia can share her story with a listening presence;
when a patient with a life-threatening illness can talk about his fears to a caring ear;
when an abused woman finds comfort in safely telling her story to a nonjudgmental listener;
— that is the gift of BeFriender Ministry.