



Voice of Care's mission is to equip the Church to nurture people with disabilities and their caregivers in their walk with Christ.

November 2018

Dear Texas congregations,

Voice of Care is pleased to announce a new outreach and caring ministry opportunity in your district. REST (Respite Education and Support Tools) is a training program that equips lay people to offer volunteer respite care to families, members, and people within your community.

As our congregations age, are prayer lists fill with increasing numbers of homebound people. Those who are homebound regularly need round-the-clock care. Those family members and friends who serve as caregivers are often overwhelmed and desperately in need of a break. The caregiver may have given up going to church, Bible study, or social events. Families may have children of various ages who have developmental disabilities and cannot stay home by themselves or who need help being included in congregational life. This program is also designed to encourage your congregation's visitation team – supplying them with confidence to be around people with disabilities.

Voice of Care President of the Board of Directors, Carli Zygowicz, a Vietnam War veteran, shared, "I had the privilege to be in San Antonio over Veterans Day. I was so proud of the way the citizens honored the veterans with a wonderful parade. They seem to really care about all veterans, especially those with disabilities. Voice of Care's REST program will help the people of Texas care for these veterans in a very practical way."

Did you know that 90% of people with disabilities do not have a home church? Sadly, the fact that 85% of churches have not been equipped with training and resources to reach out people with disabilities. Voice of Care's mission is to provide churches with the necessary education and materials to appropriately and effectively serve people with disabilities and their caregivers. REST provides a practical way for churches to meet the needs of the homebound, disabled veterans, families with children who have disabilities, and the caregivers for all of these underserved groups.

On January 23 and 24, 2019, Voice of Care is offering an opportunity for your congregations to send a designated person to a special REST training workshop. This two-day course will equip the selected individual to train 10 volunteers at your church. Your congregation's designated trainer will receive special consultation and encouragement via teleconferencing.

Your church and ministry leaders will benefit from available guidelines and manuals designed to help you select the most appropriate model of ministry for your congregation and community. how to effectively start a variety of ministries using this basic tool and other resources available.

The total cost is \$895. We are asking that the individual to be trained pay \$95 dollars as a sign of commitment to the program. The congregation would cover the additional \$800, which includes all the training materials and 10 volunteer companion guides. Your congregation would be allowed to send an additional person to become a REST trainer at a discounted rate of \$595, which would cover the training materials.

Together in Christ,

Deaconess Kris Blackwell

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***Voice of Care Texas REST Program
Train the Trainer Workshop:***

Wednesday & Thursday

January 23 & 24, 2019

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church

308 Mt Calvary Dr, San Antonio, TX 78209

Deadline to register - January 15, 2019

<http://voiceofcare.org/rest-TrainTheTrainer.html>

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