



Dear friend,

Thank you for ordering your Christian Aid Week resources. In light of the distressing news stories about sexual misconduct in the charity sector, I want to reassure you that we take safeguarding incredibly seriously.

We recognise our duty to protect and safeguard vulnerable communities. We believe that any abuse of power, including sexual violence or harassment, is totally unacceptable. As a sector, we need to be willing to recognise that this is an issue that affects us all. We will continue to work with staff and our local partners to root out any attitudes and behaviours that support such breaches of trust.

That said, I personally take strength from the kindness of many people like you, and the good people I work with across Christian Aid. We cannot let the actions of a few individuals stop us from reaching out to those most in need, including in Haiti.

Overleaf is some background information to help you answer any questions that come up through your Christian Aid Week activities, with a summary of key points below. You might want to share this letter your collectors and other Christian Aid Week volunteers.

With our thanks and prayers,

Martin Birch
Chief Operating Officer
Christian Aid

Summary: What should I say if someone asks about Christian Aid's response to the safeguarding issues in the charity sector?

- The unacceptable behaviour from a group of individuals who have abused their power is deeply saddening. But must not let the actions of a few stop us from providing vital support and help to those most in need.
- Christian Aid takes safeguarding very seriously. They are a signatory to sector-wide codes of conduct, and have a range of established policies and procedures aimed at preventing sexual harassment.
- People like Marcelin, featured on your envelope, urgently need support. It's more important than ever that we stand with them.

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