



**Faith-Based Outreach Committee  
Mission Statement:**

*To recognize and advocate spirituality in the recovery process; to connect the spiritual perspective with other interventions and best practices and to promote the concept that treatment works and people recover.*

**Faith-Based Outreach Committee  
Vision Statement:**

*To lead Cuyahoga County's faith/spiritual community in helping people living with mental illness and substance use and other disorders to recover and promote the importance of integrating faith/spirituality in the clinical healing process.*

**Contact Information**

ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County

2012 West 25th Street - 6th Floor

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Phone: 216-241-3400

Website: [www.adamhscc.org](http://www.adamhscc.org)

Eugenia Kirkland, LSW, MSSA, CDCA, Board Chair

Valeria A. Harper, MA, CDCA, Chief Executive Officer

24-Hour Suicide Prevention, Mental Health & Addiction Crisis, Information & Referral Hotline:

216-623-6888

24-Hour Crisis Text "4HELP": 741741

Crisis Chat: [www.adamhscc.org](http://www.adamhscc.org)

**STAY IN TOUCH WITH US!**

To sign up for our e-mail notifications, please visit [www.adamhscc.org](http://www.adamhscc.org).

**Follow us on social media!**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ADAMHSBoardCC](http://www.facebook.com/ADAMHSBoardCC)

Twitter: @ADAMHSBoardCC

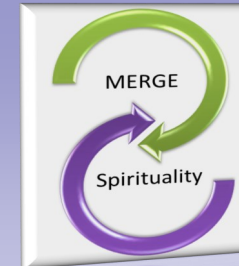
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**MERGE Spirituality**

**Mental Health  
Emotional Wellness  
Recovery  
Gaining  
Excellence &**

**Spirituality**



***Spiritual and Recovery  
Communities  
Working Together***



# NON-SECTARIAN — REACHING OUT TO ALL COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

## Faith-Based Outreach Committee

Because 79% of Americans believe that spiritual beliefs help in recovery from diseases, the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) in 2003 mandated that spiritual assessments be conducted. The Ohio Revised Code 3793:2-1-08 requires the same during the chemical dependency assessment. Yet, while more than 80% of physicians refer their patients to clergy and spiritual care providers (pastors, priests, rabbis, etc.) clinicians in mental health and chemical dependency treatment facilities lack relationships with spiritual care providers to make similar referrals.

The Faith-Based Outreach Committee, as a standing committee of the ADAMHS Board, has developed an action plan to promote and accomplish its vision for changing this unacceptable status quo.

**We invite you to partner with the Board to achieve success in the following areas:**

- Increase awareness and understanding of mental health/addiction in the faith community and to address societal stigma surrounding mental illness/alcohol & other substance use disorders.
- Educate the faith community about mental illness & substance use disorders in order to help the congregation and the overall community.
- Develop language and boundaries to clarify scope of practice for auxiliary spiritual leaders duties within the treatment community and healthcare professionals within the faith community.
- Incorporate spirituality as a component of treatment.

## Mental Health Day

Increase awareness of mental health in your worship assembly by hosting a Mental Health Day during:

- Mental Health Awareness Month (May)
- Minority Mental Health Month (July)
- Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month (September)

**Outreach activities can include:**

- Delivering messages of hope and support to your congregation, guest speakers or personal testimonies from individuals living successfully with mental illness and drug free.
- Promotional materials and/or related signage about mental illness/substance use disorders and faith-based organizations that provide appropriate treatment services.
- Videos that feature people living successfully with mental illness and free from alcohol and other drug use.
- Health fairs that include information about local mental health and substance related behavioral health care services.
- Other mediums, radio, television, news and PSA coverage.
- Scripture study which links unfortunate life events to possible Spiritual Distress & Mental Health Problems, i.e.,
  1. Divorce: Anxiety/Depression
  2. Death: Depression/Substance Use Disorders
  3. Hospital Sickness: Depression
  4. Prison: Anxiety/Depression/Substance Use Disorders

## MERGE Spirituality Training

Partake of **MERGE Spirituality** educational opportunities which will be available to your religious/spiritual congregation:

- Core Competencies for Spiritual Caregivers in Addressing Mental Health & Substance Use Disorders and the Impact on Family Members.
- Mental Health First Aid (MHFA).
- Competently Addressing the Faith Traditions of the Substance Use Diagnosed Client.
- Linking Spiritual Rituals & Activities to Address Mental Health.
- Referral to Spiritual Counseling and the use of Healthcare Professional ministries.

### Speakers Bureau

The ADAMHS Board serves as a clearinghouse for a Speakers Bureau of clients and treatment and faith-based professionals available to serve as speakers to congregations and treatment facilities.

Call 216-241-3400 for information.



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