

MISSION

Community of Christ Congregational Nurse Ministry is a healthcare ministry providing physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual care for individuals and families associated with congregations. This ministry, given in an ecumenical environment, is compassionate, imaginative, and responsive in today's changing health care environment.

FACTS

- ✓ nearly 1/3 of Jesus' recorded ministry was healing
- ✓ He did not ask how they got into that Situation-He just healed
- ✓ according to Mayo Clinic, almost 50% of disease is avoidable by lifestyle changes
- ✓ faith communities, especially Community of Christ, support healthy lifestyles
- ✓ health care costs more today
- ✓ more people want health care
- ✓ there are fewer resources
- ✓ more adults are working-fewer stay at home to care for others

Are you a pastor challenged by health needs of members in your congregation?

Are you a nurse being asked for health information by church friends?

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST HEALTH MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION

(CofCHMA logo?)

CONGREGATIONAL NURSING

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ORIGINS OF CONGREGATIONAL NURSING

Every major religion acknowledges the relationship between physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health

to many congregations, nurses and others work with the pastor to volunteer health and well -ness information, assist with finding health resources, and provide support dunnng illness to church members Today in many faith communities, these volunteer activities have evolved into the new specialty roie called Congregational Nursing A Congregational Nurse does *not* perform invasive procedures, but functions as;

- H - Health counselor
- E - Educator of wholistic health
- A - Advocate/resource person
- L - Liaison to community services
- T - Teacher of volunteers/support groups
- H - Healer body, mind, and spirit

Community of Christ Health Ministries Association is committed to developing intentional health ministries in as many of our local congregations as possible Recent rapid changes in the American healthcare system support the need for churches to strengthen their role as centers of healing and health Please, pin us by adding a nurse to your local leadership ministry team.

MINISTRY OF CONGREGATIONAL NURSES

The Congregational Nurse offers:

Pastoral team support

- * helps pastors and congregation members cope with healthcare system changes
- * a response to a congregation seeking a stronger healing and wellness emphasis

Education

- * provides health education classes
- * informs about community resources

Counseling

- * personal health-related information
- * support for persons facing crisis and problems

Pastoral skills

- * connecting the spiritual aspects of health and Wholeness
- * listening and communication skills that lead to conflict and problem resolution

Advocacy

- * advice/action to meet congregation members' needs
- * coordination with health/social service professionals on behalf of individuals in the congregation

CONGREGATIONAL NURSE PROGRAM GOALS

To introduce the concept of intentional health ministries in church settings

To introduce the role of nurses in local congregations

To provide orientation and continuing education to nurses serving in congregations

To provide a support network (or the congregations and nurses involved in health ministry/congregational nursing

HOW TO START?

1. Research Parish Nursing
2. Identify interested members
3. Win your pastor to the idea
4. Develop a task force to explore need and possibilities
5. Form a health committee
6. (Optional) Establish links with a local hospital
7. Identify or recruit a nurse
8. Support continuing education for your nurse
9. Introduce your nurse, help your nurse begin