Alliance for Healthy Communities The Faith-Based Community, Youth Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Daryl Madi

Pastor of Care, Greentree Community Church

Personal Introduction:

- Grew up in New Jersey
- Attended School of Visual Arts in Manhattan
- Graduated with Engineering Degree
- Went to Seminary in St. Louis (CTS)
- Spent most of ministry career in college campus (Penn State, Dickinson College, Washing University, Georgia Southern University, University of South Carolina)
- Currently work at GTCC in Kirkwood but spent past five years pastoring a congregation in Chesterfield.

Introduction:

What Role Do Clergy Have in Addressing Problem?

Clergy Become First Responders in Drug War

"At this point we're thinking of clergy as first responders," said Barbara Kauffman, coalition coordinator. "People in trouble with addiction do approach them and, through the years, we've gotten a lot of calls from clergy asking us: What should I do? Where do I go?"

The Faith Based Community Looking for Help

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Pew Research Center: 2013, 70% of Americans had some ongoing connection with a religious institution (attendance ranging from more than once weekly to attending services yearly)

The Faith Based Community Looking for Help

Several things happening in Church Culture:

- Move of America to a more Post-Christian Culture
- Greater awareness of issues
- Rise of counseling work in faith based communities
- Economic downturn

The Faith Based Community Looking for Help

Clergy are overwhelmed and poorly equipped

Spirituality Is a Proven Help in Recovery

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Religion, Science and Substance Abuse

America: The National Catholic Review, February 11, 2002 Issue, Joseph A. Califano, Jr.

Adults who do not consider religious beliefs important are more than one-and-a-half times more likely to smoke, more than three times likelier to binge-drink, almost four times likelier to use an illicit drug other than marijuana and more than six times likelier to smoke pot than adults who believe that religion is important.

Spirituality Is a Proven Help in Recovery

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Adults who never attend religious services are three times more likely to smoke, more than five times likelier to use an illicit drug other than marijuana, almost seven times likelier to bingedrink and almost eight times likelier to smoke pot than those who attend religious services at least weekly.

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Teens who do not consider religious beliefs important are almost three times more likely to drink, binge-drink and smoke, almost four times likelier to use marijuana and seven times likelier to use illicit drugs than teens who believe that religion is important.

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Teens who never attend religious services are twice as likely to drink, more than twice as likely to smoke, more than three times likelier to use marijuana and binge-drink and almost four times likelier to use illicit drugs than teens who attend religious services at least weekly.

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College students with no religious affiliation are more likely to binge-drink than those who identify themselves as Catholics or Protestants.

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The one-third of prison inmates who participate in religious activities exhibit lower rates of recidivism and recidivism is due almost entirely to drug and alcohol abuse.

The Roadblocks

Faith-Based Community's Defensive Stance

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.

"Yet clergy and physicians, religion and science are too often ships passing in the night. When we separate the worlds of medicine and spirituality, we deny a host of individuals help that may aid their recovery and ease their pain especially with respect to substance abuse and addiction."

The Poor Training of Clergy on Issue

The Roadblocks

Faith-Based Community's Defensive Stance

The Poor Training of Clergy on Issue

Only 12.5% of clergy receive any training about substance abuse during their theological studies

- The Poor Training of Clergy on Issue
- The Defensive Posture of Faith-Based

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 CULTURALLY DEFENSIVE

- The Poor Training of Clergy on Issue
- The Defensive Posture of Faith-Based Communities
- Limitations of Partnerships with Clergy

Q&A

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