

**CCM**

Since 1983

OF  
WNY

# CHRISTIAN COUNSELING MINISTRIES OF WNY

*Counsel \* Educate \* Serve \* Support*

Volume I, Issue I

*Serving WNY since 1983*

December, 2018

## *CCM HOPE LIST*

While we depend on God to provide all we need to move forward, it is through supporters like you that God does greater things than we could imagine. If you feel led to help us, we are depending on God's provision for the following:

**PRAYERS!** Without God, we can do nothing; but with Him, nothing is impossible!

**SUPPLIES!** Desks, chairs, couches, file cabinets, book-cases, end tables, lamps, games, art and craft supplies.

**WORKERS!** Psychiatric nurse practitioner; satellite office partners; licensed male counselor; volunteers for building repairs and maintenance and special projects.

**SUPPORT:** All monetary donations are tax-deductible, and will help us to offset the costs of counseling to those who cannot afford even our lowest fees, particularly in rural areas and the city of Buffalo. Funding will also help to advance our Behind Closed Doors Initiative.



## *New Staff Brings New Life to CCM*

After a 12 year break from CCM to raise four children, we are delighted to welcome back **Dr. Sharon Deacon, Ph.D.**, as our Clinical Director. With a Doctorate from Purdue University and over 20 years experience as a psychotherapist and psychology professor, Sharon specializes in marital therapy, sex therapy, and family counseling, and sees both adults and children. For the last year, she has been overseeing the daily operations of CCM and supervising our clinical staff, as well as seeing patients. She attends The Chapel at Crosspoint. Dr. Deacon is excited to move CCM forward with God's vision for the future.

The Clarence Office has also welcomed three new staff counselors.

**Maribeth Ferry** has a Masters degree in Mental Health Counseling and is an experienced life coach. She specializes in treating young adults and women. Maribeth is an active member of Epic Church and has a passion for conducting workshops on boundaries and mental health issues.

**Tracie VanEpps** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who also works as a school counselor. She attends Watermark Wesleyan Church. She counsels both children and adults, and specializes in learning problems, social-behavioral problems, anxiety, depression, and trauma. Tracie is very excited to start Healing Journey therapy groups and Bible studies at CCM.

**Erin Van Lente** is a recent graduate of UB and is a Licensed Master Social Worker. Erin specializes in counseling children and adolescents with learning, behavioral, and emotional issues, and counseling victims of human trafficking. Erin attends St. Bart's Anglican Church and loves sharing the Gospel through soccer ministry.

CCM is blessed to have these four dedicated and gifted women join our loyal staff in ministry!



## *Behind Closed Doors Initiative*

The National Alliance on Mental Health estimates that 20% of children ages 13-18 are living with a mental health condition and that 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. experiences a mental illness in a given year. People here in WNY are waiting four to six months to be seen by a psychiatrist, and 2-3 months

to get an appointment with a counselor. In our own local communities we are now fighting a drug addiction crisis, a mental health crisis, a human trafficking crisis, school violence and bullying, and the breakdown of traditional marriages and families at higher rates than ever.

Mental illness is often not treated until the person reaches a life-threatening crisis or relationships break down. Efforts at prevention and early detection are minimal. In times such as these, the counseling services of CCM are needed more desperately than ever! (continued on back)

**CHRISTIAN  
COUNSELING  
MINISTRIES OF WNY**

9070 Main Street  
Clarence, NY 14031  
(716) 632-3200

*Satellite offices in Orchard Park, Arcade,  
Jamestown, & Fillmore, NY*

www.ccmwny.org office@ccmwny.org

*Christian Counseling Ministries of WNY is a 501(c)3 non-profit, state-licensed mental health agency that provides individual, couple, family, and group counseling and education to people of all ages and faith traditions in the WNY community. CCM of WNY is staffed with licensed professional counselors who practice from a Christian faith-based perspective. Services are provided on a sliding fee scale, with appointments available Monday through Saturday at our main office in Clarence, NY and at four satellite offices in Arcade, Fillmore, Jamestown, and Orchard Park. Staff are also available for training, seminars, workshops, and speaking engagements on a variety of topics, as well as to respond to community crises.*

*Don't miss our next Behind Closed Event. . .*



**MENTAL HEALTH FIRST  
AID TRAINING**

*In partnership with Compeer Buffalo*

Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour course that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.

Tuesday January 29, 2019 8:30-4:30

At Eastern Hills Wesleyan Church

Regularly \$170, but through CCM:

\$45 before 12/31/18 (\*per person)

\$50 after 1/1/19

\*Space is limited to first 30 registrations received

For a registration form, email: office@ccmwny.org or visit  
<https://ccmwny.org/news-updates/behind-closed-doors/>



***Behind Closed Doors continued...***

This year, we are expanding our outreach to not only serve our own clients, but to partner with churches and other nonprofit organizations to train and support their leaders in addressing the crises that are occurring in our communities. Through our ***Behind Closed Doors Initiative***, we hope to:

1. EXAMINE how churches and Christian organizations are addressing the social-emotional and mental health-related issues in their circles of influence;
2. EDUCATE Christian leaders to identify marital, family, and mental health-related issues and needs in their churches, organizations, communities, and beyond;
3. EQUIP Christian leaders with knowledge, skills, and resources to respond to the marital, family, and mental health-related issues and crises of their members and community;
4. ELEVATE the Christian church and community as a place for healing, where both believers and non-believers can turn in times of crises, without fear of judgement, to receive hope, counsel, and restoration.

goals and expand our vision. It is our hope that through the power of God, the church of WNY will rise up and...

*Reach behind closed doors to illuminate and eliminate the stigma and secrecy of marital, family, and mental health-related crises and open pathways toward help, healing and health.*



Your prayers and financial support will help CCM to sponsor programs, workshops, trainings, and partnerships throughout the coming year to meet these four