



Church Worker Assistance Program

The Church Worker Assistance (CWA) program is designed to help you with life's challenges. Sometimes we experience problems that we cannot handle on our own. We may feel overwhelmed, depressed, nervous or anxious, and the feelings do not seem to go away. The CWA program is not a guaranteed employee benefit but rather a program with funding available through an endowment managed by Virginia Mennonite Conference.

ELIGIBILITY

- *Pastors and church employees who work at least half-time for a VMC church*
- *VMC credentialed leaders of "churches in formation"*
- *VMC and VMM staff who work at least half-time for their agency*
- *The assistance is for the employee only, unless in a joint counseling session with spouse or children*
- *This program is available without regard to other health insurance*

HOW CWA WORKS

Virginia Mennonite Conference will pay up to \$100 per session for up to four diagnostic/counseling sessions per calendar year, provided funds are available. To ensure funds are available, contact Clyde Kratz, Executive Conference Minister, at (800) 707-5535 or (540) 434-9727.

After your application has been submitted and approved, make an appointment with a licensed counselor of your choice. Ask the counseling agency to submit the bill to VMC for payment. You, or your health insurance provider, are responsible for any balance above \$100 per session.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Whatever the nature of your life situation, the conversation between you and your counselor is strictly confidential. No personal information is shared with your local congregation or Virginia Mennonite Conference.

If counseling comes as a recommendation by your supervisor, they are informed whether or not the appointment is kept. No other information as to the nature of the problem is released without your written consent.

Seeking help will not jeopardize your job rights or promotional opportunities. However, you should not expect exemptions from normal performance expectations. Counseling is not intended to replace disciplinary processes.

PROFESSIONALISM

Licensed counselors have the training and experience to assist you in dealing with your problems. They will listen carefully, assess your situation, and help you decide what to do next. If you need further assistance, beyond the four sessions available through this endowment, your counselor will review your options for continuing your counseling.

The **Family Life Resource Center (FLRC)** is one facility where you may seek counseling in the Harrisonburg area. The center provides professional counseling and educational services from a Christian faith perspective for growth toward hope, health and healing. Phone: (540) 434-8450



Church Worker Assistance Grant Application

Name _____ VMC Congregation or Organization* _____
Address _____ *must be employed 0.5 FTE or more
Phone _____ Amount Requested \$ _____
Email _____ Counseling Agency _____

Goals & Outcome Desired _____

If approved, make checks payable to _____
Address _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Please return to:
Virginia Mennonite Conference
CWA Grant • 601 Parkwood Dr.
Harrisonburg VA 22802
Or VMCgrants@virginiainconference.org

Clyde G. Kratz, Executive Conference Minister, will review the application and contact you.

For Office Use Only:

Date Rc'vd _____ Initials _____ Action Taken _____

Action by _____ Date _____

Notes