



Global Integration

Opportunities for Consulting Psychologists

Kelly O'Donnell, PsyD and Michéle Lewis O'Donnell, PsyD

Member Care Associates, Inc. mcaresources@gmail.com www.membercare.org

Most of our work as psychologists involves writing, training, consulting, and developing resources in international settings. Our work is part of the developing domain of [Global Integration \(GI\)](#). GI refers to how we all actively integrate our lives (connecting and contributing) with global realities (the major issues facing fellow humans) in light of our core values (e.g., ethical imperatives, commitment to humanity, God's glory).

We are part of Member Care associates Inc. (USA non-profit), receive funding mostly through donations, and are also actively involved in the NGO Forum for Health (Geneva-based coalition of 30 health organizations, Kelly) and the Renaissance Forum (Europe-based organization focusing on leadership development, Michéle). It is a pleasure to be able to share some examples of the work we do as consulting psychologists in Global Integration. They also reflect the many opportunities for students and colleagues as they seek to relevantly integrate their lives with global realities in light of their core values.

Both **global member care** and **global mental health** are two overlapping emphases in our work. They are core parts of GI and are described below.

Global Member Care (GMC). GMC is an interdisciplinary, international, and multi-sectoral field that focuses on supporting the diversity of mission/aid personnel and sending groups. It involves the provision and development of quality resources to promote wellbeing, resiliency, and effectiveness. Pre-field training, field coaching, personnel departments, pastoral counselors, crisis support, and reentry preparation are some of the many ingredients needed to promote health, resiliency, and effectiveness.

Here are some materials to help orient students and colleagues for member care. The links to access these materials are here: <https://sites.google.com/site/membercaravan/training-for-mc>

1. Field Counseling: Sifting the Wheat from the Chaff (Cerny and Smith, 2002) includes five principles for ethical field care, a sample confidentiality statement, and eight case vignettes/analyses.
2. Training and Using Member Care Workers (Gardner and Gardner, 1992) offers suggestions for mental health professionals who provide services to mission agencies/mission settings.
3. What Mission CEOs Want from Mental Health Professionals (McKaughan, 2002) is in *Enhancing Missionary Vitality: Mental Health Professions Serving Global Mission* (56 articles). Two of the main suggestions from CEOs (based on a survey) were understandable language and thinking corporately.
4. Highlights from a One-Week Field Consult—This is a day by day brief description of a member care trip to work with mission staff in an organization/region: leadership consultation, brief counseling, debriefing, conference speaking, and training.

Global Mental Health (GMH). GMH is an international, interdisciplinary, and multi-sectoral domain which promotes human well-being, the right to health, and equity in health for all. It encourages healthy behaviours and lifestyles; is committed to preventing and treating mental, neurological, and substance use conditions; and seeks to improve policies and programs, professional practices and research, advocacy and awareness, and social and environmental factors that affect health and well-being.

Here are some core resources to orient students and colleagues to GMH.

[Hidden Pictures](http://www.hiddenpicturesfilm.com/) film trailer (2013) <http://www.hiddenpicturesfilm.com/> (2 minutes)

[Transforming Lives, Enhancing Communities: Innovations in GMH](http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1315214) by Vikram Patel and Shekhar Saxena (*New England Journal of Medicine*, 01/2014) <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1315214>

[Global Mental Health: A Resource Map for Connecting and Contributing](http://www.apa.org/international/pi/2011/07/global-health.aspx) (*Psychology International*, July 2011, Kelly). Links to 10 core resources. <http://www.apa.org/international/pi/2011/07/global-health.aspx>

Global Mental Health: Strategies for Staying Updated (*TBA, Psychology International*, April 2014, Kelly). Describes seven “GMH flows” and their inclusion in different sectors and health/development agendas. <http://www.apa.org/international/index.aspx>

WHO: [Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020](#) is a foundational document for the global and national development of MH; [MINDbank](#) is an online platform with resources for MH, substance abuse, disability.

Some GI areas that we have worked in as consulting psychologists

“Field” Consultations (in vivo and via skype—e.g., Middle East, Central Asia)

Interviews

--*GlobalPost*, 28 January 2013 (global mental health and the *WHO Mental Health Action Plan*)
<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatches/globalpost-blogs/global-pulse/new-action-plan-could-be-turning-point-global-mental-health>)

--*Christian Manager*, 12(4), 23-28 (member care issues, perspectives, directions)
<http://www.apa.org/international/pi/2012/03/global-health.aspx>

Books

--*Confronting Christian Corruption* (current work)

--*Global member care (vol. 2): Crossing sectors for serving humanity* (2013, Kelly/Michele editors).
<https://sites.google.com/site/globalmca/>

--*Global member care (vol. 1): The pearls and perils of good practice* (2011, Kelly author).
<https://sites.google.com/site/globalmca/>

Articles/Training Modules

--UNITAR, EMDR Europe, NGO Forum (current). Online modules for UN Peacekeepers, focussing on traumatic stress (Confronting Global Trauma, Stress and Resilience in Peace Operations).

--Loving truth and peace: A case study of family resilience in dealing with mission/aid corruption. In J. Bonk (Ed.). *Family accountability in missions: Korean and Western case studies* (pp. 175-186).

--Ethics in member care: Towards an international framework. In R. Sanders (Ed.). *Christian counseling ethics: A handbook for psychologists, therapists, and pastors* (2nd ed) (pp. 439-464).

--Global mental health: A resource primer for exploring the domain. *International Perspectives in Psychology: Research, Practice, Consultation*, 1(3), 191-205. doi: [10.1037/a0029290](https://doi.org/10.1037/a0029290)

Websites and Online Resources

Member care:

--Member care in mission/aid. Monthly resource updates sent to 1500 emails.

<http://sites.google.com/site/membercaravan/resource-updates>

--Global portal for good practice. Main web site for Member Care Associates. www.membercare.org

Mental health:

--GMH-Map. Web site with resources and updates on GMH. <https://sites.google.com/site/gmhmap/>

--NGO Forum for Health. Mental health section of the website. http://ngo-forum-health.ch/?page_id=33

Corruption:

--PETRA People: Promoting peace, transparency, and accountability(website and weblog)

<https://sites.google.com/site/petrapeople/> <http://www.petranetwork.blogspot.com/>

Conferences and Training (presentations and organizing)

--2014: Himal Partner GMH Seminar, Oslo

--2013: Nordic WHO Simulation, Copenhagen; Alleviating the Global Burden of Trauma, Geneva; United Nations Human Rights Council, Geneva; EBP for MH in Low Resource Countries; Transition/TCKs, Geneva

--2012: International Congress of Psychology: Psychology Serving Humanity, RSA; Evil/Integrity, Geneva

International Statements and Resolutions

--Input on the High Level Meeting of the UN GA on NCDs Sept 2011 (emphasizing MH as a NCD, its comorbidity with "the four priority NCDs (cancer, diabetes, respiratory, cardiac) and its explicit inclusion/integration with the other NCDs. The NGO Forum for Health did four statements in 2011 in the run up to the Sept 2011 UN General Assembly. The four docs: http://ngo-forum-health.ch/?page_id=92

--Consultative input on the Movement for Global Mental Health's official statement on MH and the Post 2015 Human Development Agenda (making sure MH is included/integrated). Here is the link for the Statement: <http://ngo-forum-health.ch/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/MGMH-Post-2015-Agenda-for-Development-and-Mental-Health.pdf>

--Involvement in the process from start to finish for WHO's *MH Action Plan 2013-2020* (the proposed Resolution in Dec 2011 by India, USA, Switzerland, the resulting Action Plan's approval in May 2013 and then launch in Oct 2013). This included attending as an NGO Observer the WHO's General Assemblies and Executive Councils as well as the WHO's MHGAP Forums making interventions on the floor as well as my primarily authoring and sending in written suggestions/concerns via the online consultation. http://www.who.int/mental_health/action_plan_2013/en/

--Consultation/input on the Joint Action and Learning Initiative on National and Global Responsibilities for Health (JALI-- <http://www.jalihealth.org/>) efforts towards a **Framework Convention on Global Health** (giving input on integrating MH as well as other health areas). The latest development is a draft of a "framework" for a Framework. Here is the link: <http://www.jalihealth.org/fcgh.html>

--We also encourage students and colleagues to consider the relational side of working together (networking/partnering dynamics) in addition to MH competencies. Too much is assumed and too little discussed about this important relational area that can make or break "deals" and collaboration.

More Areas

Books editorial input, endorsements, reviews; Article reviews, dissertation input; Consultation for organizational member care; Consultation for survey/assessment tools; Boards of organizations