

# Global Mental Health-Geneva (GMH-Geneva)

*Original concept note 2012, updated November 2017*  
Dr. Kelly O'Donnell and Dr. Michèle Lewis O'Donnell  
Consulting Psychologists, Member Care Associates, Inc.



*Keep in the forefront the opportunities for “selfless moral struggle” in partnering with others (Patel et al. 2011, p. 90) and the “duty and choice to risk one’s own rights and well-being” on behalf of fellow humans (O’Donnell, 2011, p. 187). Develop your personal character and professional competence as a responsible global citizen. Form a **global caravan** for your **GMH journey** in the service of humanity. (Adapted from GMH: A Resource Primer for Exploring the Domain, 2012)*

## **A relational network and a strategic hub (net-hub) in the Geneva area to support colleagues and organizations involved in GMH**

- Connecting colleagues from various organisations-backgrounds and GMH interests (governmental and inter-governmental agencies, NGOs and academic institutions, etc.; students professors, interns, leaders, users, practitioners, health ministers, etc.)
- Offering and co-sponsoring a variety of GMH-related events in the Geneva area (symposia, workshops, conferences, formal/informal briefings, roundtables, socials) including webcasts for colleagues in health, mental health, across sectors, and students, internationally.
- Emphasizing health-wellbeing with a special focus on GMH in relation to: SDGs, MHPSS for vulnerable populations, priority MNS conditions, human rights, social determinants of health, research, good practice, integrative health policies/programmes, people affected by conflicts/calamities, humanitarian personnel, and the WHO *Mental Health Action Plan*
- Encouraging mutual support, mutual learning, and work-life balance for GMH colleagues.
- Linking with health-related networks such as G2H2, WFMH, MGMH, MHIN, etc.
- Providing e-updates and web information related to GMH-Geneva.
- Envisioning the development of different types of GMH net-hubs internationally.

GMH is an international, interdisciplinary, culturally-sensitive, and multi-sectoral domain which promotes human wellbeing, the right to health, and equity in health for all. It encourages healthy behaviors and lifestyles; is committed to preventing and treating mental, neurological, and substance use conditions (MNS) especially with vulnerable populations and in low- and middle-income countries; and seeks to improve policies and programs, professional practices and research, advocacy and awareness, and social and environmental factors that affect health and wellbeing. (adapted from [GMH: Collaborating Across Sectors for Sustainable Development and Wellbeing](#), 2017)