

Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

73 East Queenwood Road, Morton, IL 61550

Phone 309-263-5536 • 877-370-9988 • Fax 309-263-6841 • www.accounseling.org

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND FUNDING

Information, consultation, and professional counseling is offered to address such issues as depression, anxiety, adjustment difficulties, marital problems and childhood behavior problems. ACCFS offers several types of services:

Website: Our website is intended to make helpful information available whenever it is needed. The site provides information on mental health, relationships, and personal growth. Under each topic you can find helpful information to read, download, or print. Individuals can learn about how to find help for themselves or for loved ones. Online ordering of brochures and books is available. Information is being added to the site regularly.

Professional Counseling: ACCFS provides individual, marital, and family counseling for those who can travel to the office at 73 East Queenwood Road in Morton, IL. Hours are by appointment only. The counselors are trained mental health professionals who provide counseling from within a Christian framework that supports the doctrine and traditions of the Apostolic Christian Church of America. Many people choose to come to ACCFS because they have the assurance that their faith background will be respected and protected. Fees for counseling are based on a sliding fee scale based on family size and annual family income. No one will be denied services because of inability to pay.

Consultations with a Professional Counselor: People calling ACCFS can receive a consultation with one of the clinical counselors. Calls are received from people needing assistance for themselves, family members of those struggling, and from elders/ ministers who are assisting people. Counselors can help callers understand mental health issues and relationship problems and develop a plan of action to deal with these issues. This service is available to all of our churches by calling the ACCFS toll free number 877-370-9988.

Counseling Referral Information: People calling ACCFS can request information regarding counseling resources in their area. ACCFS maintains a database of mental health professionals located near Apostolic Christian Churches throughout the United States. Our goal in providing this service is to help struggling people find mental health professionals who are located near the caller's home area, have strong clinical skills and good credentials, and will be respectful of their client's religious beliefs and faith backgrounds. The ACCFS referral database includes counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, specialty clinics, and support groups. In the event we do not have any referral sources in the caller's area, we will help the caller to find one.

Education: ACCFS counselors can provide presentations to churches or to smaller groups (such as the ministers of a church or Young Groups). Presentations may cover mental health, relationships, personal growth, or more specific issues for the ministers. ACCFS has books, brochures, and handouts available (screened or created by staff) covering a mental, relationship, and personal growth.. These can be obtained by calling ACCFS or by going to our website. Some of the print materials are specifically intended for support of elders and ministers as they work with individuals.

Financial Stewardship (Crown Program): ACCFS has been given the responsibility of overseeing the ongoing development of the financial stewardship program (Crown Program) in the Apostolic Christian Church of America. Print materials that have been specifically modified for the Apostolic Christian

Church of America are available through the Apostolic Christian Publications website (www.acpublications.org). ACCFS is available to help Apostolic churches implement the Crown program in their local churches.

Mentor Training Program: ACCFS developed the Mentor Training Program for members of the Apostolic Christian Church of America. The mentoring program focuses on teaching individuals and couples the skills of effective mentoring. Elders identify brothers and/or sisters in their local congregation to send to the mentor training available through ACCFS.

Mental Health Forum: The counselors at ACCFS provide information, guidance, and mentoring to members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Church of America who work in or are interested in going into a mental health related field. Our goal is to offer encouragement, while promoting spiritual integrity and accountability. We maintain a directory of the individuals on the Forum to encourage networking and support.

Funding: A sliding fee scale based on family size and annual income is used for counseling and consultations. No one is refused services based on inability to pay. There is no fee charged for using the website. The remainder of the funding is from churches and individuals who want to support the work of ACCFS and from churches that have received services and choose to make donations to cover the cost.