

This report covers the year ending December 31, 2020. We are thankful to be a servant agency to our beloved church and to the Elder Body.



2020 Key Prayers & Opportunities

- **New Strategic Plan** - In 2020, the ACCFS board and staff embarked on a strategic planning effort in alignment with the new Apostolic Christian Church of America (ACCA) Vision, Purpose and Guiding Principles. We give thanks for God's provision as our charter clearly supports the ACCA Vision: "A body of believers, bound together by our love for Jesus Christ and His Word, reflecting God's love, grace, and truth."
- **Local Discipleship** – We would like to encourage discipleship and mentoring relationships within each local church family as an opportunity to share wise counsel, support, and accountability in our intergenerational brotherhood. We are seeking to continually develop resources to assist with these efforts.
- **Need for Counselors** – We are thankful for trained counselors within the Apostolic Christian Church. The ACCFS clinical staff is stretched to meet the counseling needs within the denomination and makes referrals outside the agency when we lack capacity or specialties needed. We encourage both sisters and brothers to consider going into the counseling field.
- **Courses** – We are thankful for the development of our Course offerings and those who have taken advantage of the current course offerings. We continue to pray for the Courses currently in development and that individuals and groups would be encouraged and strengthened as they take advantage of these resource opportunities.
- **Sharing Helps and Resources** – We want to encourage the sharing of helpful resources with others. ACCFS relies heavily on individuals sharing and forwarding our helps (resources) to others. We have designed our website content to be easily sharable.

Services in 2020

- ACCFS provided **3100** Christ-centered counseling session hours to 444 clients from 72 churches. Our counseling sessions help clients work through issues such as depression, anxiety, OCD/scrupulosity, trauma, marriage, parenting and family relationship struggles, addiction, and adjustment issues.
- Approximately **71%** of these sessions were remote counseling sessions (voice and/or video calls with clients at their location). Due to COVID-19, we have heavily relied on telehealth to meet counseling needs this year.
- **545** individual calls came into ACCFS seeking information about mental health issues or relationship problems for themselves or others. This includes elders and ministers who called regarding ways they could support others who were struggling. Many of these requests were handled with free Triage calls.
- ACCFS added a new full-time counselor, Sis Kathy Knochel (Bay City, MI), to the team in September 2020. She sees children, teens, and adults for trauma, loss, anxiety, depression, and family therapy.
- For those in need of psychiatry services, ACCFS offers telepsychiatry provided by Aaron Plattner, MD, a brother in our Alto, MI, church. This service is available to those who can come to the Morton ACCFS office for appointments. We served **47** individuals with **135** sessions thanks to the telepsychiatry program.
- ACCFS provided referrals to qualified mental health professionals and specialized services near callers' home locations. This year we continued to expand and update our Referral Index.

- **61** educational presentations and trainings were provided to members and ministers from different churches. Over 3,450 individuals attended these presentations in their various venues.
- ACCFS has developed a series of online Courses in certain topic areas. These courses are offered to encourage growth and accountability. These courses will be able to be utilized by individuals as well as local or regional support groups. Courses offered today include Lessons on Grief, Emotional Intelligence, Sexual Integrity 1.2.3., and the Apostolic Christian Way of Purity. We encourage you to explore ACCFS Courses for your own growth as well as the growth of others.
- ACCFS moved into offering video formats for some of our communications. These include teaching videos for Courses, Counselor Moments (short teaching videos on key concepts in web articles), resource introductions, and awareness videos of our Marriage Conference.
- ACCFS released **26** *Breaking Bread* podcasts on various topics throughout the year. **132** total podcast episodes are now available. To date, there have been over 223,000 downloads of these podcasts via AC Central, our website, and other venues, with an average of 1,694 downloads per episode.
- ACCFS held three additional Minister Webinars this year for ministers/wives of the Apostolic Christian Church. Since we have begun hosting minister webinars, we have had conducted 11 total minister/wives webinars and 214 ministers/wives from 79 different churches have attended at least one of these eleven webinars, with an average of 58 ministers and 38 churches per webinar.
- ACCFS resources continue to be shared out via social media to increase access and availability. We currently have over 1,100 friends on Facebook and over 1,200 followers on Instagram.
- ACCFS provided mentoring for those affiliated with our churches who are students or professionals in mental health-related fields.

Special Programs in 2020

- The 2020 *Cultivating Connections* Marriage Conference was held on September 11th-12th at Bluffton North church. Due to COVID-19, we had to limit the number of people who could attend the conference in-person. The main sessions were also shared “live” over a video conference so participants who could not be there in-person could still attend virtually. We had nearly **1,000** virtual attendees.
- At the Elder Meeting in Phoenix, AZ, ACCFS staff shared information on “Compassion Without Compromise.” This presentation was also shared at the Elder-Minister/Wives Meeting as part of the August Conference.
- ACCFS is very thankful for all the contractors who work on our facility, many who even donate their talents and products.

Conclusion

Board & Staff

In 2020, two Board members completed their term: Bro Dennis Virkler and Bro Scott Aberle. We want to thank them both for their selfless effort over their many years of service to ACCFS. Bro Dennis has been with ACCFS and the formation of ACCFS starting in 1996. Bro Scott has served on the Board starting in 2009. In 2021, we welcome Sis Peg Sauder (Indianapolis) and Bro Dennis Meyer (Bluffton) to the Board.

ACCFS currently has 11 full-time staff (including 5 counselors, 3 church outreach teachers, 2 front office staff, and an administrator) and 10 part-time staff (including 2 counselors and 4 church outreach staff).

Finances for operations were received from **71** Apostolic Christian churches. Of the **\$1,300,083** received in contributions, **\$342,326** came directly to ACCFS from individuals. ACCFS is greatly appreciative for the contributions, both from churches and from individuals.



In 2020, ACCFS received funds from the National Brotherhood Fund to help cover expenses incurred from activities related to direct support of the national church. These expenses result from services such as Elder Body support, minister support, *Breaking Bread* podcasts, etc.

Although some of the costs of operations are covered by client billings, these billings are based on a sliding scale that corresponds with the client’s annual household income. The average rate paid by clients was \$94.41/session, which is 73% of the full rate charge. The money received from billings represents 21% of our total operating expenses. Thus, ACCFS relies heavily on contributions.

As always, we are thankful to God for His loving guidance, and are appreciative of the support and encouragement provided by the Elder Body as well as the brotherhood.

In Christian love,

ACCFS Board of Directors and Staff