



**Faith Connections on Mental Illness, Inc.**

P.O. Box 3502 ♦ Chapel Hill, NC 27515

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faithconnectionsmentalillness.org

December 2017

Dear Mental Health Ally,

Faith Connections on Mental Illness (FCOMI) enthusiastically announces and invites your sponsorship of the 8th Annual FCOMI Conference, **Cultivating Mental Health: Hope and Healing** to be held Friday, April 13, 2018 in Chapel Hill. Caring mental health allies like you help make the conference possible, and we thank you for your support and generosity.

FCOMI is an interfaith, nonprofit organization working with faith communities to advocate for and to support and educate individuals and families affected by mental illness. Our signature educational event—the Annual FCOMI Conference—features nationally recognized speakers on faith and mental illness and provides a full day of education, exhibits and connection. Approximately 250 laypersons, clergy, healthcare professionals, advocates and other stakeholders typically attend. Topics and speakers for **Cultivating Mental Health: Hope and Healing** (see attached Save-the-Date flyer) include

- *Substance use, addiction and the faith community*, Jonathan Benz, MS, ordained minister and addictions specialist, NAPAP, New York, NY
- *From stigma to science: Understanding and helping persons with substance use disorders*, Paul Nagy, MS, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Duke University
- *Depression in the elderly: A personal view*, Dan Blazer, MD, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Duke University
- *Speaking into the silence: Breaking the stigma of mental illness in faith communities*, Angela Whitenhill, MDiv, Mental Health Initiative Manager, National Benevolent Association, St. Louis, MO
- *Shop local: Facing the mental health challenges and building innovative local solutions*, Thava Mahadevan, MS, Director of Operations, Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health, UNC

*The mission of Faith Connections on Mental Illness is to work with all local faith communities to advocate for and to support and educate individuals and families who are living with mental illness.*

Meeting at St. Thomas More ♦ 940 Carmichael St. ♦ Chapel Hill, NC 27514

On FaceBook ♦ <https://www.facebook.com/faithconnectionsmentalillness>

FCOMI welcomes your support of our mission and conference *in any amount*. Contributions may be made online (go to secure donation link available on the [FCOMI website](#)) or mailed to FCOMI, PO Box 3502, Chapel Hill, NC 27515. For donors of \$100 or more, we offer **3 levels of conference sponsorship**:

**SUSTAINER** (\$500 or more)  
**ADVOCATE** (\$250 – \$499)  
**FRIEND** (\$100 – \$249)

Each **SUSTAINER**, **ADVOCATE**, and **FRIEND** will be acknowledged in the conference program, onscreen during the conference, on our website, and in other media and promotional materials. In addition, a **SUSTAINER**, **ADVOCATE**, or **FRIEND** that is a mental health-related nonprofit or LME/MCO may, for a nominal table fee (gratis for Sustainer, \$75 for Advocate, \$100 for Friend), exhibit during the conference to share information about their services.

To become a **SUSTAINER**, **ADVOCATE**, or **FRIEND** (and also, if desired, exhibitor), please click here, or cut and paste into your browser, [bit.ly/2018FCOMIsponsor](http://bit.ly/2018FCOMIsponsor), where you may securely provide your sponsor information and then be directed to the online donation site. Alternatively, please mail your completed sponsor information (form attached) with payment to FCOMI, PO Box 3502, Chapel Hill, NC 27515.

Thank you for your support in cultivating health, hope and healing for those affected by mental illness! Conference registration will open in December 2017. We encourage you to register early and to help spread the word about the conference to your faith communities and local organizations. Each of us would be happy to answer any question you might have about the conference or sponsorship.

Kind regards,

Carl Clark, MDiv  
Co-chair, 8th Annual FCOMI Conference  
Member, FCOMI Board of Directors

Hugh Tilson, PhD  
Co-chair, 8th Annual FCOMI Conference  
Treasurer, FCOMI Board of Directors

Marcie Hursting, PhD  
Exhibit Coordinator, 8th Annual FCOMI Conference  
Secretary, FCOMI Board of Directors

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