Spirituality, Mental Health and Resilience during the dual pandemics of COVID-19 and HIV

The role of faith communities and faith groups’ promising practices

Thursday 4 February 2021

5:30-7:30 am San Francisco / 8:30-10:30 am New York / 1:30-3:30 pm Dakar / 2:30-4:30 pm Geneva / 4:30-6:30 Nairobi / 7:00-9:00 pm Mumbai / 8:30-10:30 Bangkok

Virtual – UNAIDS Platform (Zoom) + YouTube

Interpretation: English, French, Spanish

PLEASE REGISTER HERE

https://www.interfaith-health-platform.org/webinar-spirit-mental-h-resilience

Expected Outcomes

Raise awareness on the issues among faith communities; identify key recommendations for follow up to guide participants on issues of mental health; present best practices – resources; network/strengthen collaboration with groups working on HIV/mental health/COVID-19.

Agenda

Facilitators:

- Laurel Sprague, Chief, Community Mobilization, Department of Gender, Human Rights and Community Engagement, UNAIDS
- Rev. Dr. William Francis, Atlanta Faith in Action

Overview and Session 1 – Mental Health in the dual pandemics: what spirituality, resilience and a human rights-based approach have to offer?

- Dainius Pūras, Director, Human Rights Monitoring Institute, Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Vilnius university, former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health: A human rights based approach to mental health
- Ani Shakarishvili, Special Adviser, Team Lead - Access to Treatment and Care, and Integration, UNAIDS: Mental Health and HIV: Mental Health, Substance Use and HIV/AIDS: promoting human rights, an integrated and person-centred approach to improving HIV and health outcomes, well-being and quality of life
- Rev. Sarah Lund, United Church of Christ Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice: Spiritual Care Tools for Community Mental Health
• Sabrina T. Cherry, Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies Certificate, Assistant Professor, Public Health Faculty Fellow, UNCW Center For Social Impact: Impact of spirituality on resilience and coping during the COVID-19 crisis

Session 2 - Best Practices & Lessons Learned Session: HIV & COVID-19

• Gracia Violeta Ross Quiroga, President of the Bolivian Network of People Living with HIV, Espiritualidad, salud mental y resiliencia en las pandemias de COVID-19 y VIH (Spirituality, Mental Health and Resilience during the dual pandemics)

• Nkatha Njeru, Coordinator, Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP), Best Practices & Lessons Learned: The Case of ACHAP

• Applesta Da Costa, Program Lead, Psychosocial Support for interventions in mental health, Human Touch Foundation, Goa, India, Optimising Health/Non Health Outcomes for Adolescents Living with HIV amid COVID-19

• Fr Rick Bauer, Director of Spiritual and Psychosocial Support for the Eastern Deanery AIDS Relief program in Nairobi, Kenya: Spirituality, Mental Health and Resilience during the dual pandemics of COVID-19 and HIV: Understandings and practices from EDARP

2021 Interfaith Health Platform Webinars

1. Migration and HIV: follow up to the workshops 2019 (Geneva and Africa) – and trainings on HIVST and PrEP (April)
2. Workshop on the role of faith communities in strengthening adolescent peer groups. Bring together participants with first-hand experience and promising practice interventions, particularly including young people involved the interventions; Experience of adolescents’ groups to work on disclosure (with FBOs); and challenges faced by FBOs to address human sexuality (pivot from children to adolescents’ care and support) (June)
3. Framework for Dialogue and Stigma reduction interventions (September)
4. Webinar to commemorate World AIDS Day + Interfaith Service (December)