



*Counseling, Incorporated
A Samaritan Center*

Report to Supporting Associations & Churches
September 30, 2009
Kim Cook, MA, MSW, LCSW-C
Executive Director

Centrepointe Counseling Inc. has been experiencing growth for the last months. Growth has occurred many ways including staffing, geographic reach, and financial development. The board and staff have also successfully completed an accreditation review by the Samaritan Institute. All efforts of CentrePointe focus on the mission to provide professional, Christ-centered counseling and consultation services throughout Maryland.

The staff currently is comprised of 18 counselors, 3 mediators, and one part-time administrative assistant. Kim Cook, LCSW-C became the Executive Director as of March 1, 2009. Tom Rodgerson serves in his new role as Clergy and Congregational Care Director. We have hired new counselors including:

Marlene Backert, LCPC (Middle River, Bel Air, Port Deposit), *Carolyn Buresh* (Silver Spring), *Andrea Loreg* (Crofton, Severn), *Dan Stinchcomb* (Eldersburg), *Dawn Lewis* (Charles Village, Lutherville, Parkville), and *Toni Kelley* (Clarksburg).

The 2008 statistics were compiled this past spring. We provided 5,154 hours of counseling and 844 hours of consultation, totaling 5,998 hours. Our top 5 referral sources are clergy, friends, family, insurance, and other/website. Of our 436 new clients last year, 73% stated that they attend church and 27% stated that they have no church (32% are from SBC churches). The number of female clients was almost double that of male clients and 62 children were seen for therapy. We have over 200 clients in care.

Our goals for next year include expanding awareness of this ministry and increasing our outreach to churches and other community groups. CentrePointe has begun work on an agency video and we are also making plans to begin a quarterly newsletter. CentrePointe is also seeking to increase the frequency of conferences and public education events offered to churches and other groups. Our counselors are skilled communicators for deacon groups, parent trainings, marriage retreats, women's or men's ministry events, and youth ministries. These outreach events seek to promote wellness in congregations and families before problems occur requiring counseling or conflict mediation.

Three new centers were added this year to the sites for counseling. They are Clarksburg (Greenridge Baptist, Montgomery Association), Bel Air (Calvary Baptist, Susquehanna Association), and Port Deposit (Pleasantview Baptist, Susquehanna Association). These

are important additions, including our first presence in Harford and Cecil Counties and a presence in northern Montgomery County. We now have 26 sites throughout the state.

Throughout this year, Centrepointe has begun concentrated, strategically planned fundraising efforts. Changes in the pledged amounts from churches and associations, affected by the declining economy, have increased our need to do fundraising. A first fundraising event, Women Helping Women, a scrapbooking event was held March 14, 2009 at the Church at Severn Run. A second fundraising event, Centrepointe Family First Golf Classic, was held September 24, 2009 at Waverly Woods Golf Course. These events raised both awareness and support for the agency. The money raised goes directly to Centrepointe to help with ministry costs and scholarships for under/uninsured clients.

CentrePointe is the only agency in the state of Maryland to be accredited by the Samaritan Institute, which is an international organization for pastoral counseling agencies. CentrePointe undergoes a thorough review once every four years and had its review visit in September 2009. They make sure that we meet 36 standards and review personnel, financial, clinical, and administrative files. CentrePointe passed fully! Referring and supporting churches can be confident that the services we provide are of the highest professional quality and maintain current health care requirements.

We have found, through our association with the Samaritan Institute that other centers must raise 30-percent of their budget through sponsorships, donations, and fundraising events. However, Centrepointe can maintain this percentage below 20-percent because of the generous donation of office space by sponsoring churches and associations. We do not have the overhead of mortgage, lease, and utilities, so are able to use the money raised to provide direct services to those in need. Over 80% of every dollar that comes to CentrePointe goes to direct programs & services. Your donations sustain the ministries and enable us to help all in need, regardless of their ability to pay for services.

Centrepointe has several other ongoing needs. We are *seeking licensed therapists*, especially in southern Maryland. Those interested should send a resume and cover letter to info@centrepointecounseling.org. Also, we are in need of *volunteers to help with our fundraising events and for board memberships*. Centrepointe is also *enlisting prayer support for the ministry*. Our prayer needs include the needs of our clients, the needs of those not yet started their counseling but in need of care, and for the staff and board in their ministry tasks. Also, please add our agency name to your church prayer lists.

Thank you for your continued partnership with us! Our mission is to provide Christ-centered professional counseling and consultation services that work for transformation at the center of individuals, families, and organizations, creating a ripple effect of change in thinking, believing, and acting. As one part changes, so the others must around it. Healthy individuals lead to healthy families, healthy families lead to healthy churches, and ultimately to healthy communities.

Please contact any of our counselors for help or for general questions about the ministry at 800-491-5369. Or visit our website at www.centrepointecounseling.org.