
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission Deadline: 28 February 2021

ORGANISED By
**Asia Christian
Counseling Association**



HOSTED By
**Association of
Christian Counsellors
(Singapore)**



4TH ASIAN CHRISTIAN COUNSELING **VIRTUAL** CONFERENCE 2021

Thursday, 9 September 2021 to Saturday, 11 September 2021

Objectives of the ACCA Conference 2021:

1. To broaden the Christian counselor's worldview and calling to fulfil the Great Commission
2. To equip the Christian counselor with skills that facilitate, support and empower others across borders and cultures
3. To extend Christian love and compassion beyond the counseling room into the mission field

Founding Members



India: Association Of Christian
Counsellors (ACC)



National Association Of
Christian Counsellors Malaysia
(NACC)



Philippine Association Of
Christian Counselors, Inc.
(PACC)



Asosiasi Konselor Kristen
Indonesia (AKKI)



ACC (China)

New Members:



Association Of Christian Counsellors Of Singapore (ACCS)



Mongolian Christian Counseling Association (MCCA)



Christian Counseling Association Of Thailand (CCAT)

Associate Member:



Christian Counsellors Association of Australia

Christian Counsellors Association Of Australia (CCAA)

Theme: Integrating Asian Christian Counseling in Missions

The mission expressed in Christian counseling necessitates the **COMPASSION** of Christ in the building up of **COMMUNITIES**; where **CARE** and **COUNSELING** practices, taking into consideration differences in **CULTURE**, are being employed to fulfil the **COMMISSION** of a Christian counselor in discipleship and the specific call to the work of soul and pastoral care. Soul care is the ministry of the Word of God to the whole person that addresses emotional and psychological needs in the field of mental health as well as in the area of **CRISIS** response in disaster-relief and trauma-related work in the mission fields.

This conference is therefore open to **Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping**, and presents a range of topics and speakers from six compelling tracks – compassion, communities, care, counseling/crisis, culture, and commission.

Track 1: COMPASSION

Compassion and Empathy versus Concern and Sympathy: many people are concern and sympathise with marginalised groups in missions along with those who suffer tragically, economically, emotionally, and/or psychologically. However, the Christian counselor is called to have compassion and empathy for all peoples - “Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian slave, free”, just as Christ who gives us compassion and the gift of love to reach beyond borders and barriers. This conference track will touch on ways that Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping can build compassion to reach multiple people groups through cross-border engagement and extend support to agencies, missionaries, and counselors who may be on the mission field.



Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and is in all. Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

COLOSSIANS 3:9-14

Track 2: CARE

Missionary care is known as the emotional, mental and spiritual support a missionary receives from their church or sending organisation throughout the entire missionary journey. More than the individual, it also focuses on everyone directly or indirectly involved within the system (missionaries, support staff, children and families) over the entire course of the missionary life cycle - from recruitment all through to retirement. This conference track for Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping will cover various principles and ways to provide missionary care (including professional care) so that there can be effective and sustainable ministries.

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Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

PSALM 112:6-7

Track 3: CULTURE

Christian counselors are living in an era of increasing diversity of groups and cultures. Cross-cultural missions are now happening right at our doorstep. Yet, there is no distinction of race and culture in a God who is the creator of all mankind. His love penetrates every ethnic group on this earth, and demolishes every cultural barrier. We see Christ's birth being announced both to the affluent wise men (Matthew 2) and to the shepherds (Luke 2). He demonstrated cultural sensitivity when counseling the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:5-10), and reached out to the Syrophenician woman (Mark 7:26) who was of a different ethnicity. This conference track will equip Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping to be sensitive in multicultural and diversity issues in this global community. It will enable them to gain a deeper understanding of the biblical worldview within the context of Christian counseling and be able to learn differing perspectives on practice guidelines and culture-specific counseling.



So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

JOHN 4:5-10

Track 4: COUNSELING/CRISIS

There is a call to be Jesus' hands and feet as we feed the hungry, give something to the thirsty, clothe the stranger, visit the sick and those in prison. Counseling related work in the mission field can include sustainable clinical work, counseling networks or existing mental health programmes that have been employed to enhance mental health of missionaries and the local community they serve, for example child-centric therapy in orphanages or group recovery programmes with substance abuse communities. This will also include areas such as crisis response and intervention, Psychological First Aid or First Responders, disaster recovery as well as trauma-related work in mission fields. This conference track offers myriad ways in which mental health and clinical counseling are employed in missional work. It will seek to explore training Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping to assist those in crisis and trauma recovery, learning how missionary counselors create spiritual, emotional, and psychological healing spaces for those affected by abuse and trauma in the mission field they serve, and caring for communities in crisis.



"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

MATTHEW 25:34-45

Track 5: COMMUNITY

Community is the manifestation of missions. It is an essential part of believers' assignment to be "salt and light", and in order for missions to be carried out in our community, providing counseling to those who are in need but might not have access to these services can be an approach to put God's attributes on display to this watchful world. Endeavours in counseling to reach the vulnerable, the weak and the poor in our community creates the crucial platform for the evangelistic efforts of a church. Such counseling outreaches could be, but not limited to, supporting individuals who are abused, children who have been abandoned, others who have been rejected and deemed as outcast of society. By these efforts, we are able to demonstrate His love, care, and affection to the community. This conference track is for Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping to provide an exchange of information and ideas for community related work and projects that have been employed by mental health and mission workers in the field.



What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

JAMES 2:14-17

Track 6: COMMISSION

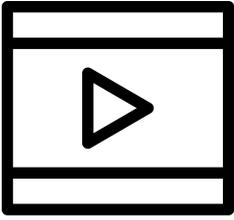
Counseling can be a platform to apply God's truth to a fallen and hurting humanity that deeply needs God and His principles for redemption. With powerful, divinely inspired resources and the partnership of the Holy Spirit, the Christian is richly equipped for this mission. Jesus gave a 2-fold commission for Christians to (i) follow Him as His disciples and (ii) to live for Him as disciple-makers. Discipleship is a rewarding responsibility, both for those under the care of the Christian as well as for the journey of the Christian. This conference track looks at ways whereby the Christian counselors, psychologists, social workers, missionaries, pastoral staff and all Christians interested in people-helping can seek to accomplish this dual mission: continual self-spiritual nourishment and self-care by trusting, following and growing in Christ in His truth; and redeeming lives by equipping them with biblical truth and principles to resolve their problems. This track will also look at new and innovative strategies of achieving this mission in terms of cultural-anthropological relevance and keeping up with technological advances.



All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

MATTHEW 28:18-20

WORKSHOP FORMAT



SUBMISSION FORMAT, CHOICE OF:

LIVE Presentation, option variations:

1. Zoom Meeting without breakout sessions for small group discussion
2. Zoom Meeting with breakout sessions for small group discussion
3. Zoom Webinar for large audience without Q&A
4. Zoom Webinar for large audience with Q&A



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<https://tinyurl.com/4thACCA-vConference>



Questions?

Please email: abstracts@accs.org.sg