



## Nationally Recognized Models

### Faith in Action

- ❑ Funded by Robert Wood Johnson from 1983-2008
- ❑ Over 670 local Faith in Action programs still running
- ❑ Faith in Action National Network, call 866-839-8865, or visit [www.fianationalnetwork.org](http://www.fianationalnetwork.org)

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## Interfaith CarePartners®

- Based in Houston, TX, 1985-Present; Replicated Nationally
- Second Family Care Team®, Alzheimer's Care Team®, AIDS Care Team®, and Kids' Pals Care Team®.
- Service Record 1986 - 2009
  - ❑ Over 12,000 Care Team' members
  - ❑ Services provided to over 7,600 individuals
  - ❑ 1.85 million hours of volunteer service
- Recipient of National Awards
- <http://interfaithcarepartners.org/>

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## Making Respite Work in the Faith Community 2010

And  
Establishing & Operating a Respite Voucher Program Within Your Faith Community

WC Hoecke "heck-uh" MEd  
Family Connection of SC



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## Why the faith community?

- Compassion
- Wealth of volunteers
- Community-based
- Stability
- Existing non-profit status

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## Creative faith-based models

- Inclusion
- Financial Support
- Respite Voucher
- Respite Site (Brookdale = 1)
- Support Group Respite
- Adopt-a-Family Program

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## More models

- Family Cooperative
- Caregivers morning/time out
- Care Teams
- Trained Respite Providers
- Collaborative Respite, Faith & Community Programs

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## Respite Benevolence Policy

- Respite Voucher Program
  - congregation provides no direct services
  - helps pay for the hiring of a provider that the family chooses
  - payment does not need to be counted as income in their taxes
  - contributors to the fund receive a tax deduction

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## Respite Benevolence Policy

1. The purpose of respite benevolence program.
2. Criteria to be used to determine whether a person qualifies to receive a respite voucher.
3. Liability of services provided.
4. Identify employee, or volunteer of faith community, who is responsible for approving benevolent vouchers.
5. Develop a process of writing checks and dispersing respite payments.
6. Identify amounts and frequency of gifts.
7. Use of donations to respite benevolence fund.
8. Develop a process of accountability.

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## Contributions Designated for Individuals

Since faith communities are granted nonprofit status because of their charitable religious purpose, no individuals are allowed to personally benefit from the nonprofit status. Such personal benefit is referred to as "personal inurement" and is illegal.

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## Contributions Designated for Individuals

An example is:

A grandfather of an autistic child giving a tax-exempt gift must be given to the faith community's respite benevolence program with no guarantee that it be used for his grandson's parents who may attend that faith community. Faith communities then have the opportunity to disperse these funds as they see fit.

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## Respite Benevolence Policy

Much of this paper is taken directly or in part from Tony Cooke Ministries of Broken Arrow, OK.

Policy paper on "Benevolence Policy":

[http://www.tonycooke.org/free\\_resources/articles\\_others/church\\_benevolence.html](http://www.tonycooke.org/free_resources/articles_others/church_benevolence.html)

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- For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me.  
Matthew 25:35

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**The Gathering  
Group Respite**  
presented by Carolyn Klaver, RN



Faith-Based Communities  
helping caregivers and  
persons with memory loss



**Lyngblomsten's  
Home- and Community-Based Services**

- **Who Provides:** *The Gathering* partners with corporate congregations and faith communities in Twin City areas of MN. Currently, 24 churches provide over 200 volunteers, financial support and consortium decision making.
- **Who is Served:** Up to ten participant/caregiver dyads at each site. Participants have early to mid-stage memory loss.
- **What:** Five hours of group respite
- **When:** Twice a month per site

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**Why and How?**

- **Why:** Churches are trusted in the community; often have space that can be utilized for respite; and volunteers who often work with a different purpose
- **How:** Through ongoing education, volunteers "called as a part of their faith journey" provide amazing flexibility, patience, and planning for cognitive stimulation

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**Our Beginning**

- **2000:** *The Gathering* grew out of Care Team Ministry when Lyngblomsten, the Como Park Block Nurse Program and St. Timothy Lutheran Church in St. Paul decided to work together to provide respite to caregivers
- We didn't anticipate initially the enormous self-esteem boost and quality of care that would be provided to the participants as well - it is a great marketing tool for the caregivers as many don't see their own needs as quickly as their loved ones

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### Affirmations We are "Doing the Right Thing"

- **2004:** Age Odyssey Policy Award. MN Governor recognized *The Gathering* for creative approach to meeting needs of frail elderly through agency and community collaboration.
- Helped Anoka County start their own version of *The Gathering* to help in all areas of adult caregiving.
- **2009:** Received an A- grade from our volunteers for support, education and mentoring received from Lyngblomsten
- **National Expansion:** Now working with Lutheran Services in America (Baltimore) to educate agencies and congregations across the country to start their own memory loss group respite

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### Volunteers

- Faith Community volunteers are key.
- Receive 4 hour training including memory-loss communication techniques and activity planning
- Receive 4 hours additional training for Lead Volunteers who are trained on Best Practices for a 5 hour day
- Receive quarterly continuing education on the latest in memory care practices
- Trained on current statistics showing serious need for caregivers to receive respite
- Allowing volunteers to plan and run the day with an RN stopping in/available by cell phone brings in multi-skilled volunteers - retired and part time professionals included

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### In-Kind Partnerships

- Faith Community provides the building, room(s), kitchen, bathroom facilities with staff to assist with set-up and facility issues. They also provide the volunteers
- Non-Hosting Churches (not providing the building but involved in partnership) also add to the volunteer staff and the **partnership dues** to cover criminal background checks, volunteer lunches, participant activity supplies
- Home- and Community-Based Services (Lyngblomsten) provides the staff of Registered Nurses and Business Specialist to support this quality programming

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### Group Respite Costs

- Creative partnerships necessary to keep costs down for the caregiver.
- One volunteer for every participant
- Morning coffee and home baked goodies
- Lunch
- Possible field trips or stipends for speakers
- Activity supplies - Lyngblomsten provides some supplies for check out - bowling kit, etc
- If not for our faith communities - this program might not be affordable to our caregivers

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### Funding

- Lyngblomsten Foundation
- Anderson Foundation
- Brookdale Foundation
- Some past grants – Stevens Square Foundation, MN CS/SD grant
- Weekly fee of \$45 with sliding scale as needed
- One county works with us on Alternative Care/Waivered services

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### Keeping Volunteers Motivated

- Verbal appreciation
- Come together twice a year for growth and celebration (special program, food and continuing education)
- Answer questions as quickly as possible – a nervous, unsure volunteer is not a satisfied volunteer.
- Equip them to do great work. After training, volunteers receive **continuing education 4 times a year**.
- Volunteers use gifts and strengths – we have retired teachers, engineers, nurses, social workers, psychologists, etc – they don't want us to hand them a 'canned' day.
- Job descriptions ask for a 1 year commitment.

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### Pastor at White Bear Lake United Methodist Church

- "As a service to the community, *The Gathering* utilizes volunteers. I am impressed with the outstanding dedication of these volunteers. I see *The Gathering* as one of the best services we have been involved in".

-Pastor Bryce Johnson

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### Family Member Testimony

- "My father has become extremely isolated with his memory loss. Our family is extremely grateful for *The Gathering* which provides him with very necessary mental and physical stimulation which is enormously helpful in maintaining his mental alertness ... and alleviating some of his depression. This break for our mother .. has been a blessing to ..our entire family"

-Ann and Marilyn, daughters

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### Lead Volunteer Testimony

"We are inspired by the devotion of the caregivers, and it motivates us to continue to provide them with much needed respite".

-Julie

Why support family caregivers with respite? They are the backbone of our long term care system. They fill huge gaps in our health and long term care systems. They need our support.

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### Don and Sherry Simpson



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### Carolyn Klaver RN

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Live Questions  
or Email Questions to  
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703-256-2084

**Thank you for joining us today**  
**Archived webinar available at**  
**[www.archrespite.org](http://www.archrespite.org)**

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