



FALL 2021

# CAMPUS PULSE

CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY ASSOCIATION



## AND WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

BY DORIS BARROW, III

On October 26, we hosted our Fall Symposium on Mental Health. 275 attendees from several countries gathered online to learn more about how best to help college students who struggle with mental health

One of my responsibilities was to seek out sponsors for the gathering. One, in particular, is a Lay Association called to be a healing presence in the lives of people with mental illness. The Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers (ACMHM), at its core, accompanies others by simply recognizing Jesus Christ in persons living with mental illness.

The parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37) best illustrates the work of ACMHM and it reminds me how campus ministers should not look the other way or walk past those living with mental illness. *Continued on pp.2*

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## AND WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR CONTD.

The work of campus ministry is challenging and yet our CCMA members recognize how vitally important their roles are on college campuses. Especially now. They realize that they may be the only caring adult that a student might encounter on any given day.

In gratitude to all of our sponsors for the Fall Symposium and fellow disciples in Christ (our generous donors) for making it possible to Equip, Connect and Inspire our members, I say thank you.

Saints Dymphna and Benedict Joseph Labre, pray for us.



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHAEL ST. PIERRE, ED.D.

As a father of four kids, I know the stresses of raising kids in the faith. You want them to believe, to be obedient, to think critically, and serve those in need. That game plan can quickly change when life gets messy. Unfortunately, no child enjoys a perfectly smooth journey into adulthood.

The messiness that necessarily goes along with young adulthood is one which CCMA has embraced throughout the Covid pandemic. Recently, our Fall Symposium on Mental Health featured dynamic workshops on topics like addiction, anxiety, and suicide. Rather than ignoring these real issues facing more and more students, we chose to invest even more time in training our members.

Your support of CCMA allows us to be where students are. This support is seen practically in something like the Symposium and for that, we are extremely grateful.



## WHY WE SUPPORT CCMA

RICH & CHRIS KERBER

Did you know that many people are choosing to give to CCMA through its Monthly Support Partner program?

This is your opportunity to break up faith-filled giving into monthly amounts. That way, you can schedule your giving and CCMA can better plan for its monthly revenue.

By choosing the amount that works for your personal budget, provide training for campus ministers, and be part of the exciting growth in campus ministry around the country by making CCMA a part of your monthly giving.

**Get started today:**  
[ccmanetwork.org/support](http://ccmanetwork.org/support)

Our son, and only child, graduated from college in 2004. It was while he was at the university that he stepped away from the strong Catholic faith in which he was raised.

He is such a good man, with such a kind and conscientious heart, but my own heart is so very saddened to see him no longer going to church at all, nor sharing in the joy of our faith. It was a few years after our son's graduation that my husband and I were traveling, and while at Sunday Mass, we heard a cheerful and encouraging message from a CCMA member of a nearby university team.

Perhaps it was the Holy Spirit that spoke to me at that moment and told me this was a ministry we should support if it could help other young adults thrive in their faith when going off to college.

Our annual contribution isn't large, but, of course, *God takes all things and uses them for good*. Our prayer is that, with His hand on this good ministry, it will prove to be a sustaining and fruitful force on more and more campuses across our nation.

Thank you to Rich and Chris Kerber and to all of our donors.

**Consider becoming a Monthly Support Partner and, like the Kerbers, plant a seed so that CCMA can continue to expand its Catholic mission.**

**"The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic God's giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves." - St. Nicholas of Myra**



# FALL SYMPOSIUM ON MENTAL HEALTH



Even before the Covid-19 pandemic impacted campuses, students told us that they felt alone, anxious, and uncertain. This “lonely generation” of young people, beloved by God, are those we accompany each day. Their struggles are real and the response as campus ministry professionals is one that requires training, preparation, humility, and wisdom.

The Fall Symposium connected CCMA members with professionals who equipped them with resources and the confidence to walk with students.

The Symposium was a tremendous success, involving 275 participants from around the world.

In gratitude to our sponsors, donors, and presenters, we say thank you.

## FALL 2021 OFFICE HOURS

Thank you to each of our presenters for sharing their wisdom with our members this Fall Season of Office Hours.





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*-Xavier University of Louisiana Student Finds A Home Away From Home  
-275 Campus Ministers + Mental Health Professionals*

## A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

College senior Asha Richards, a Houston, Texas native, experienced the welcoming of campus ministry as soon as she arrived on campus and found a *home away from home*.

Read what Asha shared about her campus ministry experience.

*"Campus ministry played a huge role in helping me assimilate into campus life while still remaining connected to my faith. I especially formed a bond with Mrs. Lisa McClain, Director of Campus Ministry. Mrs. Lisa has been like an adopted mother to me, always looking out for me and making sure I had support no matter what I strived to accomplish at Xavier. Campus ministry truly acts as an extended family to students helping to support their spiritual lives."*

Asha's story is one every college student should be able to share. Thankfully, our CCMA members are making these stories possible, and yet, college students are always in need of more support and especially now.



*- Asha Richards Student Leader  
Senior Biology Pre-Med major  
Xavier University of Louisiana*



[www.ccmanetwork.org/support](http://www.ccmanetwork.org/support)