

AARTH MINISTRY PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Create Safe Spaces for healthy dialogue about HIV/AIDS

A mini-documentary about the impact of HIV/AIDS among people of African descent and the role of the faith and larger community.

- Training for facilitators representing faith houses, community-based organizations and institutions.
- Facilitators receive copies of the video, facilitator's guide and student materials.
- Free community dialogue sessions conducted by AARTH staff and trained facilitators.



ACCESS TO WELLNESS NETWORK

Online access to culturally relevant health resources

- Internet & Health Data Retrieval Training
- Web Site Development Support
- Health Applications such as newsletters, pamphlets, bulletins



HIV/AIDS TRAINING

- Orientation for Clergy
- CME Courses for Clinicians
- Certification for Instructors
- HIV/AIDS Education for Licensees

African Americans Reach and Teach Health (AARTH) Ministry is a faith-based nonprofit organization established in 2002 to respond to HIV/AIDS and other major health issues affecting people of African descent .

Our mission is to help build the capacity of faith houses and institutions that serve people of African descent through education, compassionate service, access to resources and self-advocacy for better health care systems.



A ministry of health, wholeness and healing for the body, mind and spirit

HEALTH MINISTRY SERVICES

AARTH Ministry, building capacity through education, access to resources, self-advocacy and compassionate service

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A strategic planning process based on biblical principles

African Americans Reach and Teach Health (AARTH) Ministry provide services for establishing health ministries that **emphasize the wholeness of body, mind, and spirit within congregations and among the people in the communities they serve.**

The church's role in a healing ministry is as old as Scripture. Healing is the centerpiece of Jesus' ministry on earth and a model for the church's healing ministry (Matthew 15:30). Reverend Dr. Granger Westberg, a chaplain and theologian understood and promoted the value of health care professionals such as nurses as health ministers within faith communities. He believed that religion and health care were complimentary and the recognition that illness and healing involve the whole person.

A faith-centered health ministry program demonstrates that churches are reclaiming their role in health and healing. A health ministry is generally developed on the following concepts:

- Health ministries are based on achieving wholeness, acknowledging the close connection between mind, body and spirit.
- Health care requires more than medical treatment for disease or illness.
- Health ministries support health promotion and disease prevention and caring for the body that we have been given.
- Health ministers are caring, spiritually mature people who reach out to comfort, console, strengthen, teach and encourage members of the congregation.

How to participate

Participating partners agree to requirements specified below and demonstrate this by signing a letter of agreement.

- Clergy and health ministry leadership participation in a 1-2 hour orientation about the health ministry planning process
- A team of 4-6 members (including at least 1 member with clinical background where possible) commit to working with the AARTH team to complete a 40 hour health ministry planning process and a 90 day implementation phase of the program services developed
- Clergy and health ministry leadership agreement to conduct a health & wellness survey of the congregation as a pre-requisite to entering the training.
- A one time \$200.00 fee for purchasing of training materials
- A donation to AARTH Ministry

AARTH Ministry combines faith principles with standards and tools for organizational development to partner with faith houses to facilitate the health ministry strategic planning process.

Development and implementation process

Visioning

Vision
Mission
Goals

Infrastructure & Capacity Building

Conduct congregation health assessment
Identify program services
Develop action plan
Define program schedule
Develop budget
Review confidentiality & liability policies
Develop Health Ministry Guide

Implementation

Commission Health Ministry
Recruit members from the body
Collaborate with health care providers
Deliver program ministry services
In/outreach to body and community
Assess and update health ministry & services

Health Ministry Services

Each health ministry is uniquely designed to fit the needs and capacities of the congregation

Health

Health Screenings
Health Workshops
Community Health Site
Health Literature
Career paths

Wellness

Circle of Care Team
Support groups
Counseling
Nutrition & Exercise

Wholeness

Prayer for healing
Healing Services
Pastoral Counseling
Visitation of the sick

Resource Services

Education & training
Access to health providers & materials
Access to clinical nurses
Access to funding & scholarships