

OUR DREAM Self propagating transformation as the normal function of the church.

THE CHALLENGE

As evil spreads through any community or group, it leaves behind signs such as trauma, but even more insidiously, it brings about the disappearance of relationships, trust and love. The basic skills necessary for joyful relationships weaken and disappear from one generation to the next. And the abuse, violence and damage spread from person to person without help. One in three abused children grows up to be an abuser. In the case of pedophiles, each one will abuse about 260

children. Two-thirds of addicts report being abused as children, and the children of addicts are three times more likely to be abused. At Life Model Works we have seen first-hand how, when this evil spreads, everyone suffers. Not only do trauma and addictions cause much suffering, they also produce damaging changes in the brain. We at Life Model Works have found solutions.

<http://www.childhelp.org/pages/statistics>

2 SOLUTIONS

1. The clinical solutions currently are expensive and cumbersome, they require extreme levels of education and do not spread on their own. Even those people who are able to benefit from modern treatments are not able to then help others without undergoing the same extensive training that therapists need. From a global perspective, factors such as wars,

AIDS, societal disintegration, child abuse, violent crime, human trafficking, addictions, and terrorism have left about a quarter of the world's population showing significant signs of trauma. Against such overwhelming circumstances, our current recovery systems end up looking like a Band-Aid on a volcano. Life Model Works solutions make it possible for ordinary

people to pass on to others what they have learned, without extensive training.

2. Along with transferable training, Life Model Works is committed to self-propagating recovery that transforms cultures. The Christian Church is the only global force whose calling is to love and reach even those who see them as enemies.

DISTRIBUTION

If we are able to develop an effective self-propagating recovery program, the best existing distribution system for global recovery would be the relational network created by the church. All over the world, most new converts to Christianity come from backgrounds of trauma and/or addiction. They enter into the Church having impaired maturity and relational skills. Simple conversion does not provide the missing brain skills they need for healthy relationships any more than salvation will make them sud-

denly literate. Thus the Church faces the recovery problem both inside its congregations and in its mission. In the past the Church has shown a capacity to change cultures, although it lacks that vital function in most of the Western world at this time. In spite of this current state, we at Life Model Works are dreaming of a self-propagating recovery model that could change cultures through the ordinary life of the Church. We believe that we are on that path.

ELEMENTS OF THE PROBLEM / ELEMENTS OF THE SOLUTION

- Trauma and addictions change our identities; therefore the solution must also change identities.
- Trauma self-propagates; therefore the solution must self-propagate.
- Trauma blocks the development of maturity and character; therefore the solution must restore maturity and Godly character.
- Trauma encourages people to reject others, therefore the solution must create belonging.
- Trauma and addictions spread without needing education; although the solution should be based on the best science, it should not require a Western education or medical model.
- Violence and terrorism traumatize whole groups at once; therefore the solution must heal whole groups at once.
- All human cultures, races and ethnicities have the same nervous systems and the same spiritual needs. A solution based on solid neurology and Biblical spirituality would be a solution as universal as the causes for trauma.
- The recovery model must be high-tech design with a low-tech implementation.
- Abuse usually spreads through unhealthy relationships. The 19 relational brain skills, taught through THRIVE materials in bonded relationships, train and encourage people towards joyful relating.
- The identities formed by the solution must match God's design for us.

The Life Model shows promise as a solution that is both high-tech in its foundations and low-tech in its implementation that ordinary Christians without specialized education can use. Elements have already been shown to work in groups and the results demonstrate self-propagation. The remaining elements exist conceptually in the minds of an aging but devoted group at Life Model Works. While self-propagating healing is easier to do through the Immanuel Process, self-propagating relational skills are not as easy to transfer. The relational skills take community, bonded relationships and time. Along with healing and improved relationships, Life Model Works staff believes this same model and the skills it teaches, could reduce, and even prevent, some trauma and addiction.

HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT

- 1971** Shepherd's House Inc. is founded with the primary purpose of using Christian counseling principles to help people with their emotional and spiritual needs.
- 1980s** Shepherd's House provides nearly 1,200 monthly counseling appointments with women who had been sexually abused as children.
- 1990s** Insurance industry calculated the cost for recovery of one sexually abused child to be \$15 million. Realizing a more affordable solution is needed, Counselor Jane Willard introduces healing prayer. Through these changes the Shepherd's House staff began developing a new model that came to be called the Life Model.
- 2002** Shepherd's House staff identifies nineteen relational brain skills. The team developed ways for ordinary people to identify lacking skills and train others in these brain skills.
- 2008** Shepherd's House works with Dr. Karl Lehman of Chicago to develop the Immanuel Prayer Process, combining healing prayer and cutting-edge neuroscience and to facilitate trauma resolution in large-group settings. Initial tests in Colombia and Sri Lanka yield positive outcomes for self-propagating recovery. Further testing and research awaits funding.
- 2009** Ed Khouri & Jim Wilder develop a trauma-&-addiction recovery program called Thriving: Recover Your Life. Thriving serves as a test program for self-propagating recovery as a normal function of the local church.
- 2011** Shepherd's House recently celebrated 40 years of helping people thrive.
- 2012** Forming (for the strong) is added to Restarting (for the weak). Belonging runs after Forming and Restarting and brings the weak and the strong together, an essential ingredient for the transformation zone. Further development awaits additional funding.
- 2013** Joy Starts Here: the transformation zone is published. Together with Connexus (Restarting, Forming and Belonging) and Thrive, this provides a complete solution for churches to create the transformation zone. Shepherd's House begins operating as Life Model Works.

OUR HOPE

Our hope is to develop, test and then distribute this technology to as many existing networks as possible. We are planting seeds that will change whole cultures, alter generational heritages and equip people with the skills they need to thrive.

Would you like to dream with us and get involved with Life Model Works to see self-propagating recovery become an everyday function of the church?

Your support through prayer, finances and action is vital to making this dream a reality. For more information please contact:

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