

# The Church Leader's COUNSELING RESOURCE BOOK

*A Guide to Mental Health and Social Problems*

Edited by Cynthia Franklin and Rowena Fong

**T**his all-in-one guide is designed to better equip clergy and the church leaders to meet their congregations' needs in a spiritually grounded and scientifically sound manner. Succinct, easy-to-read chapters summarize all a pastor needs to know about a given problem area, including its signs or symptoms, questions to ask, effective helping skills, and, most importantly, when to refer to a mental health professional. Synthesizing what research says about treatment approaches for mental health issues, this user-friendly reference is filled with guidelines, case scenarios, key points to remember, resources for further help, advice on integrating scripture and theology with the best available research, and tips on partnering with others to provide the best possible care for each church member. Each chapter is designed for quick lookup by problem area, empowering church leaders to understand and help meet the challenges facing the children, adults, families, and communities that they serve.

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**"Finally, a practical and comprehensive resource book to help pastors deal with the wide range of mental and social issues facing the church today. This is a must-have resource book for every pastor and a gift to the church at large."**

—George O. Wood, Chief Executive Officer,  
General Council of the Assemblies of God,  
Springfield, Missouri

**"Unlike books that are strong on information about the problem but weak on what can be done to alleviate it, this book provides guidance, pointing the reader in the right direction and providing a reliable map for what may prove to be a long and arduous journey. Think of this book as the Handel's Messiah of counseling resources for church leaders!"**

—Donald Capps, Professor of Pastoral  
Psychology, Princeton Theological Seminary

**"Pastors often tread into mental health problems overconfident or underprepared. This book is a welcome antidote. With the help of this handbook, pastors can claim a proper confidence in counseling situations and work more effectively with other helping professionals."**

—George A. Mason, Senior Pastor, Wilshire  
Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas

