



## **How to Start a Mental Health Ministry**

- A. Create a Ministry Team.
  - o Identify stakeholders—the process for getting approval
  - Open invitation the whole church's participation
  - Find personnel and other needed resources within and outside your local church
- B. Create a Learning and Accepting Culture.
  - More than physical accessibility is needed
  - Know your audience. Learning is built on existing skills and knowledge (Luke 8:4-15).
  - Possibilities are built on existing strengths. Often perceived weaknesses are strengths over-emphasized. Tracing a perceived weakness back to a hidden strength can open possibilities for the individual and the church.
  - Empower people with learning disabilities at church. "Caring" for those
    with a disability is not enough. Acknowledgment and encouragement
    of the gifts and talents that God has given is part of Adventist
    Possibility Ministries.