

# Global Connections Member Care Forum

Report on Debriefing Round Table held in Oxford on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2005

## Issues raised:

- Duty of Care/Confidentiality
- Mission agency expectations of church
- Caring Agencies Expectation of church
- Comparison with other agencies policies/practices on debriefing
- Evaluation of team debriefing programme
- Short-term debrief
- Faith issues of returnees
- New materials on debriefing
- 'in-house' v. 'professional debrief; internal/external debrief; task/personal debrief

## HSE Guidance for Management Standards:

- employees are able to cope with the demands of their job
- systems are in place locally to deal with employees needs
- organization provides adequate and achievable demands for the job
- the job is designed to be within the capacities of employees
- employees' concerns about the work environment are addressed

## Debrief Questions:

- Who has access to the debrief report?
- Differentiate between external and internal debrief
  - The demands of the agency
  - Signed permission of the individual
  - Operational debrief report goes to the agency
  - Psychological debrief remains confidential
- Place of the church – how is it involved in debrief?
- What help would the church like?
- Wycliffe report churches are involved in the work debrief
- Gold Hill conduct their own debriefing
- EIHC reports many individuals are not aware their church would *like* to be involved with debrief

## New Materials

- Suggestion from Annie Hargreaves
  - A Psalm of Anger
  - A Psalm of Lament
  - A Psalm of Thanksgiving
- Suggestion from Marion Knell for kids
  - Memory bags
  - Hand puppets for feelings
  - Wish list for the future
  - Biblical TCK studies, e.g, Ruth, Daniel
  - Identity collages
- Suggestion from IFES
  - 'Survival Kit for Overseas Living' by Rob Khols
  - 'Experiential Activities for Intercultural Learning' Intercultural Press
- Suggestion from Maryann Richards
  - 'Five Languages of Love' for couples, for teens – Gary Chapman

#### Concern about Internet Pornography:

- 'The Dark Side of the Internet' – article in EMQ by Dr Brent Lindquist
- 'Covenant Eyes' – website to pair up with accountability partner what you access on the internet

#### Church partnership:

- Latin Link, SIM, IFES, Interserve, Wycliffe all reported that they had sending church agreements
- Some generic material from GC would be appreciated
- WEC/Wycliffe day 'Helping care for your missionary 30<sup>th</sup> June 10-4
- Debbie Lovell/Mike Frith 'Serving as Senders' day at St Aldates 9<sup>th</sup> July
- GC offers 'Care Across Cultures – the role of the local church as sender' seminars

#### Caring for Missionaries

- Questionnaires pre-furlough, pre-retirement for individual and field leadership
- Material on 'Facing your first furlough'
- Trust factor – several visits needed before member care is accepted
- Space on forms for sharing the unexpected, e.g. 'What has been most difficult for you?'
- Money should be raised at the outset or budgeted into support figure for orientation and debrief

#### Faith issues:

- Spiritual Direction
- Doubt
- Theology of suffering
- Room to explore spirituality
- Learning to receive
- Resources – Penhurst Place; Interserve CD with Joyce Huggett

#### Action Points:

1. Training opportunities – notice to be given to GC to put on the website or newsletter
2. Anyone from the group would email to GC forms they use, resources list or any other material they were willing to share
3. Material for sending churches to be sent to GC. GC to update/prepare a leaflet/booklet for sending churches on their involvement
4. GC will explore hosting:
  - Retirement seminar, using Wycliffe's specialist
  - Crisis response 2-day symposium – next spring? Debbie Hawker has produced PIA's manual on this

Resources list compiled by Debbie Lovell attached

Marion Knell