

GAP 13: WHOLISTIC HEALTH

Driving Question for Collaborative Design

How might Christians in the church, parachurch, and workplace collaborate to reach and disciple others into mental and physical health as a sign of holistic salvation?

Description

As the world has increasingly acknowledged and de-stigmatized mental health issues, the concept of wholistic health has moved from the shadows to a core concern of secular and religious institutions alike. COVID-19 accelerated the concern for existing global and personal health, ranging from physical to mental health systems. The increased call for wholistic health extends beyond global organizations like the World Health Organization and G20 nations, to Christian organizations who experience high levels of burn-out of its leaders. The call to make disciples of the nations is bound up with seeking mental, physical, and spiritual health inside and outside the church, forming whole-people and healthy communities in the places we work, live, and play.

Acknowledging the fundamental role of physical and mental health as a basic human need, in collaboration with spiritual health, this conversation prayerfully explores:

Collaboration Questions

- How can mission/church organizations/workers prevent burn-out in their staff and communities, and promote better mental health societally?
- How can organizations, missional businesses, and churches partner with civic services to provide care?
- How does deteriorating public and church mental health affect the plausibility of the gospel and/or offer opportunities for gospel-shaped living and witness?
- What are wise practices for the simultaneous care of physical, mental, and spiritual needs?

Sub-Topics

- Wise practices for mental health and the Great Commission
- Wise practices for physical health and the Great Commission
- Organizational collaboration with civic partners
- Mission/church organizational/missional business collaboration for serving health needs

Preparation before Seoul 2024

Please read these sections of the State of the Great Commission Report:

- Introduction from the Theology Working Group
- Part I, on the State of the Great Commission globally, captured by text and graphics
- Part II, with the articles on 'Global Health' and 'Mental Health'
- Part III for your particular region in which you primarily work or serve in church or parachurch