



Dakotas-Minnesota Area

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Area Mental Health Connector

The Area Mental Health Connector will resource local churches in the Dakotas and Minnesota Conferences in developing ministries and providing access to resources to support emotional and mental health awareness and education for the congregations and communities being served. Specifically, the Connector would:

- Identify and curate current mental health ministries in our local churches for sharing with others. Write articles to highlight ministries and post information on a mental health resource webpage.
- Develop and maintain a unique webpage in each annual conference to host curated information related to mental health ministries, services, and resources helpful to congregations.
- Seek out and provide information around key mental health topics to local churches, posting on the conference webpage if appropriate.
- Identify and cultivate connections with organizations interesting in partnering with the conferences and local churches (e.g. NAMI).
- Identify and sponsor occasional webinar workshops providing helpful content, tools, and practices to improve one's emotional and mental for clergy and lay.
- Develop a guideline for churches to source mental health services in a local community.
- Develop a guide to encourage and assist churches in exploring and creating a ministry focused upon mental health needs grounded in Wesleyan theology.
- Contribute on occasion to the monthly blog series highlighting various aspects of mental health and the treatment modalities to increase awareness.
- Collaborate and align with the office of Area Clergy Well-being, conference staff, and conference connectors where initiatives may intersect.

The ideal candidate recognizes the intersection of emotional health and spiritual maturity. Special consideration is given to the candidate with training/education or work experience in social work, mental health, or the healthcare industry. Engagement in their local church ministries important. The candidate recognizes the importance of an outwardly focused faith community.

The Area Mental Health Connector is a contract position working 25 hours per month. The contract fee is commensurate with experience. The Connector is expected to participate in regularly scheduled meetings with connectors from each conference whenever possible. The position is remote with flexible working hours.

Send a letter of interest and resume to diane.owen@dkmnareaumc.org by June 1, 2026.

Contact: Diane Owen, Area Director of Clergy Well-being
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