

CLOSE TO HOME

CLOSE TO HOME



These pamphlets are a wonderful way for congregations to invite people to share their struggles and take additional steps on the journey toward wholeness.

—justice advocate

Close to Home pamphlets are published by Mennonite Publishing Network in partnership with Mennonite Church and Mennonite Brethren ministries and institutions. The pamphlets are written and reviewed by caregivers with therapeutic training, experience, and Christian commitment.



Price each: \$.75 (US), \$.86 (CDN)

Quantity discount: 10% off orders of 200 pamphlets or more.

FREE with orders of 50 pamphlets or more: pamphlet-sized display panel.

To order call:

Canada: 1 800 631-6535

USA: 1 800 245-7894

[www.mpn.net/closetohome](http://www.mpn.net/closetohome)

Printed in USA



Faith & Life Resources

A division of Mennonite Publishing Network  
Mennonite Church USA and  
Mennonite Church Canada

Some subjects are so close to home we don't like to talk about them.

It's time to reach out

Close to Home pastoral care pamphlets

spouse abuse, alcoholism, depression, marital discord, eating disorders, child abuse, date rape, pornography, anxiety disorders, drug abuse

You are a congregational caregiver....

You are gifted and called to help free the captive, heal those who are broken, bring light in the darkness. How can you help others to be brave, to take steps toward wholeness?

Close to Home pastoral care pamphlets can open doors toward conversation, awareness, and healing steps. They bring together therapy, Christian faith, and congregational support.

Our approaches to healing have followed the lead of society, fragmenting hurting individuals and devaluing the important roles that therapy, biblical faith, congregational care play in the healing process. I am encouraged at this attempt to integrate these different voices.

—Ontario pastor

What do Close to Home pamphlets offer?

Each 12-page booklet has five parts:

- a true story of someone who has found help in the context of Christian faith, the church, and professional care
- an introduction to the issue, based on the best information available
- an exploration of how the Bible and the Christian story bring hope to those who suffer, and to those who are close to them
- practical steps toward wholeness, including (often) finding professional help
- a list of resources for further information and help.

The back cover of each pamphlet includes space for contact information of counselors and other local resources.

What makes Close to Home unique?

Clinics and counseling offices usually offer literature on the medical and therapeutic aspects of mental health, addiction, or abuse issues. Close to Home pamphlets go a step further by placing the issues in the light of the Bible, Christian faith, and congregational care.



## How can you use the Close to Home pamphlets?

### Offer them in your pastoral care visits.

The pamphlets can get conversation started.

### Give them to loved ones of those who suffer.

Families are always affected when people suffer from mental health issues, addictions, or abuse. The pamphlets offer handles on how to understand and help.

**Use them for adult education or support groups.** Such exposure can increase the level of caring and community in your congregation.

**Display them in your church foyer, counseling room, or restrooms.** Some people keep their struggles well hidden. They may not seek help at first, but they might discreetly pick up a pamphlet.

The Pornography piece is excellent! I'd love to send it to several guys I'm working with at our church.

—Virginia pastor

I just wanted to congratulate you and thank you.... For the Mennonite Church to take leadership in making available resources on these very important topics is noteworthy and appropriate.

—domestic violence worker

Consider installing a display rack on a table or on a wall. Check your local office supply store or Internet suppliers for display options.



A pamphlet-sized display panel, shown above, is included free of charge with orders of 50 pamphlets or more.

### Free study guides available

Consider Close to Home pamphlets as a dynamic option for adult Sunday school or small groups. For free, downloadable guides, go to [www.mpn.net/closetohome](http://www.mpn.net/closetohome). Each guide is devoted to one topic, designed to be used in one session. You will begin to:

- unravel the myths
- learn to care appropriately
- see how Christian faith, the Bible, and professional care can work together.

## Close to Home Pamphlets Available

**Dealing with Acquaintance Rape** for people who have experienced or could experience sexual assault by “friends”

**Dealing with Alcoholism** for those whose compulsive use of alcohol is wreaking havoc on their lives

**Dealing with Bullying** for parents whose child is being bullied or is bullying

**Dealing with Child Abuse** for those who have suffered early wounds of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse

**Dealing with Depression** for people who are chronically “down” and not functioning well because of it

**Dealing with Drug Abuse** for those who recognize that their consumption of drugs is derailing their lives

**Dealing with Eating Disorders** for those whose approaches to food are destroying their health

**Dealing with Extreme Anxiety** for people whose lives are invaded by fears beyond their control

**Dealing with Gambling** for those whose lives have been taken over by games of chance

**Dealing with Marital Discord** for spouses who fear their marriage is failing and need outside help

**Dealing with Overwhelming Debt** for those who need to regain control of their finances

**Dealing with Pornography** for people compulsively attracted to the products of this \$57 billion global industry

“Dealing with Spouse Abuse” is a much needed pamphlet for our congregations. Thanks for working at this.

—conference leader

**Dealing with Spouse Abuse** for those being hurt by their intimate partners—physically, sexually, or emotionally.

### Coming titles

**Dealing with Bipolar Disorder**

**Dealing with Elder Abuse**

**Dealing with Dementia**

**Dealing with Electronic Addiction**  
(Internet, cell phones, computer games)

**Dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**

**Dealing with Infertility**

**Dealing with Self-Mutilation**

**Dealing with Teenage Pregnancy**

For more information go to [www.mpn.net/closetohome](http://www.mpn.net/closetohome)

