



CMCA Summit
May 17-18, 2024 | Wheaton, IL

REJOICE!

"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!" - Revelation 19:6-7

How To Fight Stigma and Restore Returning Citizens

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Stigma

Stigma: A complex phenomenon that is a constructed social, mental, and cultural process that reproduces inequalities in every society. (Stutterheim, van der Kooij, et. al. 2023, 1)

Stigma

Respondent 1: Stigma is when people feel they need to perform for others, or they will not be seen as a good person.

Respondent 2: Stigma is the belief that someone has something abnormally wrong with them.

Respondent 3: Stigma is a taboo, something not to be talked about or addressed or swept under the rug.

Respondent 4: Stigma is any label that diminishes the image of goodness for the individual.

Respondent 5: Stigma is how we see the other in a certain negative way.

Stigma

Respondent 6: Stigma is what you feel based on what other people think about you and your relationships.

Respondent 7: Stigma is a judgment by an individual that assigns a malady, a defect in a human being.

Respondent 8: Stigma is labeling somebody due to a certain type of behavior.

Respondent 9: Stigma is a prejudice valued against something.

Respondent 10: A perceived notion regarding someone or something.

stigma

surgery

isolated pattern
warning
surgical melanocyte
humiliation
disgrace

shoulder blotch
social patchy
skin
shame

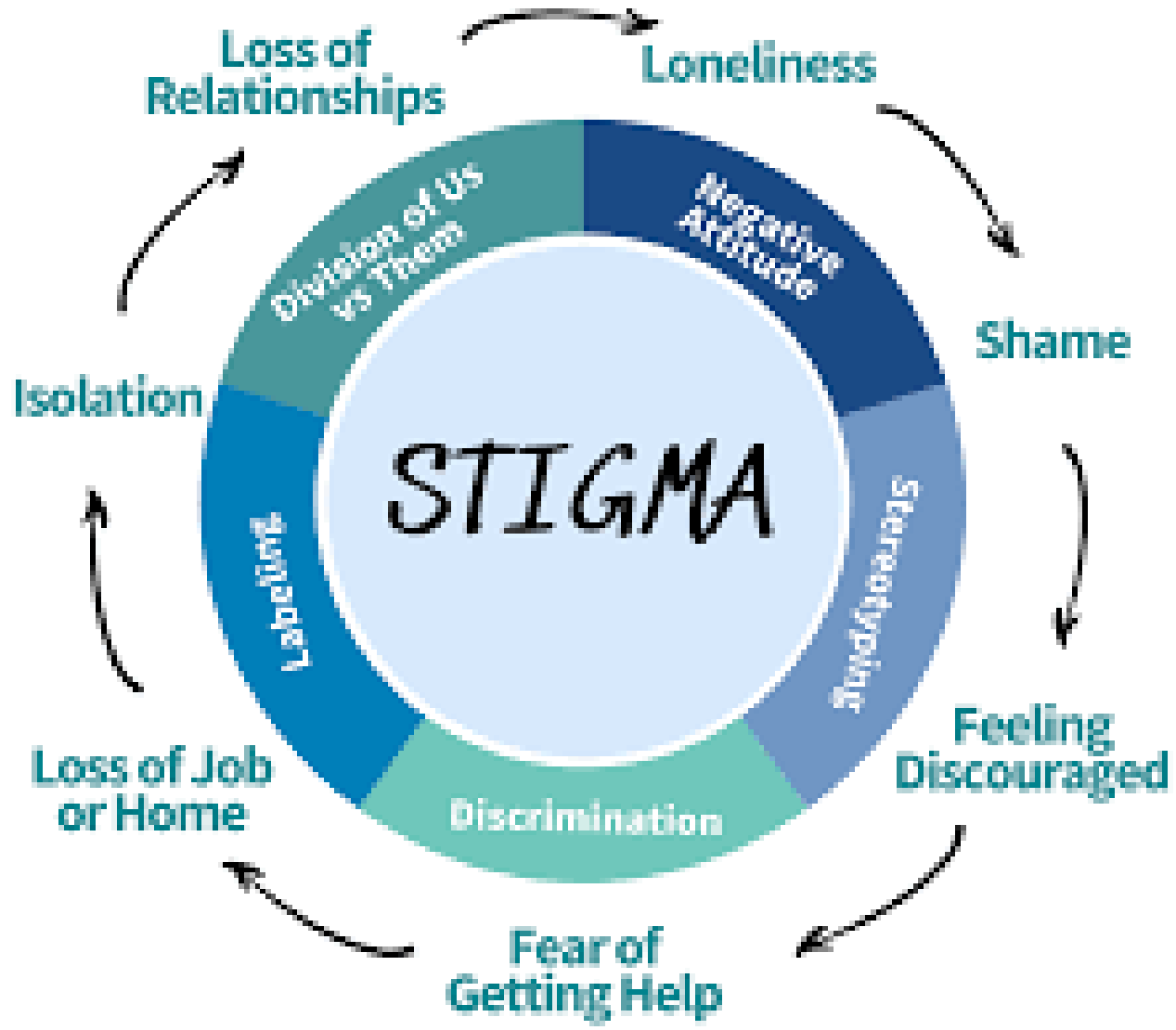
tear
sickness
pigmentation

belly
ashamed
discrimination
health
blemish
painful
lonely

embarrassment
dishonor

guilt
humiliated
uncomfortable
prejudice
nervous
disease melanin
human stop

condition sin
dermatitis
loneliness
alone
lesion
different
depression section
fault disorder secret
unemployment
stress
business
ethnicity
feeling stomach
scarred



The Church's Perceptions of the Returning Citizen



Research Questions

- How are evangelical churches and mental health agencies working collaboratively today?
- What do you think alcoholism is?
- What do you think addiction is?
- How do you see the evangelical church working collaboratively with mental health professionals?
- Why do you think the church should/should not work with mental health professionals?



Research Questions

- What do you think causes alcoholism to occur in individuals and why?
- What do you think the Bible says about alcohol and the alcoholic?
- How are evangelical churches learning about the alcoholic today?
- What do you think stigma is?
- Why do you think stigma exists between church leaders and alcoholics today in the evangelical church?



Research Questions

- What double standards does the evangelical church tend to justify and why?
- What education or help do senior/lead pastors need to better address alcoholism in the evangelical church?
- Why do you think many evangelical churches tend to stigmatize alcoholics?
- How do you see the evangelical church defining “good” v “bad” behavior?
- Why do you think evangelical church leaders and members tend to fear alcoholics?



Research Questions

- What is the evangelical church doing to welcome and minister to alcoholics?
- What do you think the Bible says about alcohol and the alcoholic?
- How do you see the evangelical church environment creating attitudinal and structural barriers for alcoholics?
- How do you think the Bible defines the church?
- Why do you think alcoholics see the church negatively and what may drive them to leave the church?



Research Questions

- What barriers exist between alcoholics and non-alcoholics in church settings?
- Why do senior pastors seem to be ill-equipped in organizing and implementing ministries for alcoholics and their families?





LEAD TO CHANGE.
RETURNING CITIZENS

Returning Citizens & The Church

- **Community Recovery**
 - **Bridges to Grace**
 - **The Recovery-Minded Church**
- 

JOIN US LIVE

OUR BROADCAST SCHEDULE

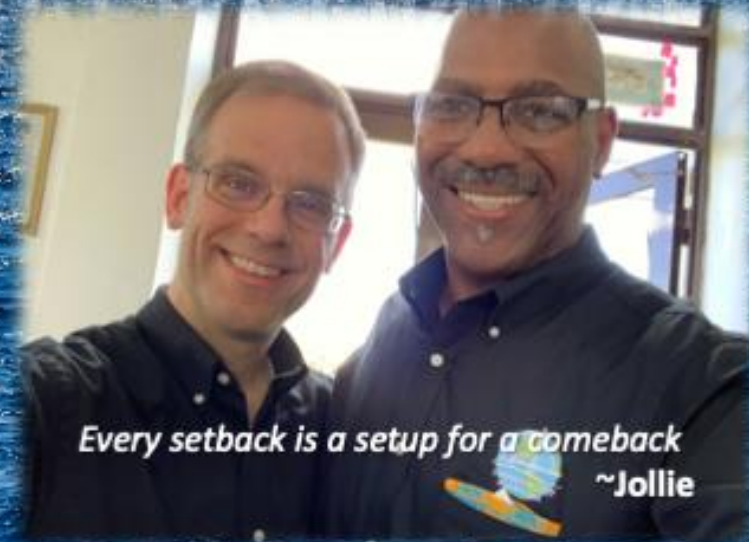


CRIRECOVERY.ONLINE.CHURCH

FRIDAY

6:45 pm

Friday Recovery



Every setback is a setup for a comeback
~Jollie

SUNDAY

12:00 pm

Sunday Recovery

Bridges to Grace

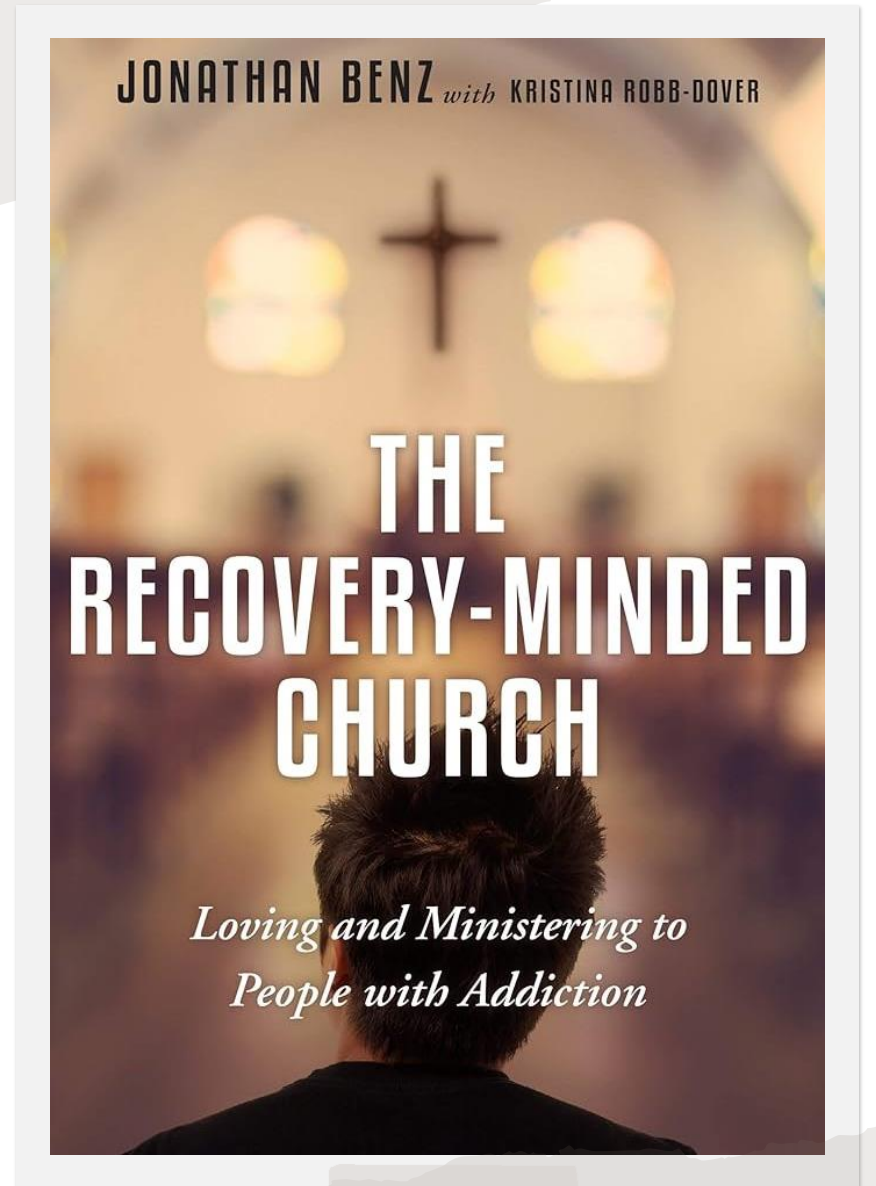
- Recovery Ministry
- Disconnect
- “Those Characters...”
- Need to educate

BRIDGES TO GRACE

Innovative Approaches
to Recovery Ministry

The Recovery-Minded Church

- What Recovery Ministry in the local church is.
- The myths of addiction
- Ending Shame
- Attending Skills
- Restorative Mentality



THE MODELS OF THE CHURCH



**AN
INSTITUTION**



**A MYSTICAL
COMMUNION**



A SACRAMENT



A HERALD



A SERVANT



**A COMMUNITY
OF DISCIPLES**



Returning Citizens & Assimilation

- Cardinal Avery Dulles & Models of Church
- Church Models Inform Research
- Current Research



What Keeps Returning Citizens From Fully Integrating Into Church Life?

- Fear
- Ignorance
- Lack of Training
- Lack of Desire
- **THE CHURCH MENTALITY**

Church Language

A photograph of a woman with glasses and a white jacket speaking to a group in a church setting. She is gesturing with her right hand. In the background, another woman in a red top is visible. The scene is brightly lit with large windows.

- Spiritual Formation
- Redemption
- Discipleship
- Ministry
- Family of God
- Those People
- Moral (ism)

Recovery Language

- Work the 12 Steps
- Clean Time
- Support
- Inclusion
- Work in Progress
- Testimony
- Addict



How Can the Church Be More Effective in Normalizing Returning Citizens in the Church?

- Educate
- Equip
- Establish
- Empower





Strategies & Methodologies

- Leader Vision
- Programming
- Drop Barriers; Use Boundaries
- GO to Returning Citizens
- Take Risks
- Fierce Conversations

S.M.A.R.T Goals

A photograph of a church interior. In the foreground, a man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a blue shirt, is seen from the back, looking towards the front. In the middle ground, a man in a white clerical robe is leaning over a wooden pew, looking down at someone. Other people, mostly men in blue shirts, are seated in the pews in the background, some looking towards the front. The church has a simple, clean design with a door visible in the distance.

- GO to your Senior/Lead Pastor
- Be Strategic in HOW you educate
- Build momentum & Support
- Cumulative effect/Flywheel effect
- Invite other voices
- Model normalizing returning citizens in the church
- REPEAT.