

**Doing Member Care Well:  
Perspectives and Practices from Around the World  
Edited by Kelly O'Donnell**

**BOOK DESCRIPTION:**

**Kelly O'Donnell, Editor, 2002, 576 pages. William Carey Library/WEF Missions Commission.**

The book is an international compilation of articles and updates on how different organizations and member care workers are doing member care around the world. It includes authors from both the Newer Sending Countries (NSCs) and the Older Sending Countries (OSCs). I am especially committed to include material from the NSCs, and to use the book as a way to profile their issues and approaches to member care. We will all benefit as a variety of member care colleagues share about their work--pastors, personnel development specialists, church leaders, physicians, psychologists, and missionaries themselves. We will also get a clearer sense of how the member care field is maturing as an interdisciplinary, international, and indispensable handmaiden to missions. Note that over 100 people from around the world were involved in producing this book (authors, reviewers, consultants, etc.).

Although most of the existing written material has come from OSC authors, there is a steady stream of materials--mostly articles--coming from NSC regions. This new book includes some of these articles, most of which are usually available only at the regional level, as well as new articles by both NSC and OSC authors alike. My goal was not to produce a comprehensive compendium, but rather a selective sampling of helpful member care perspectives and practices. The result is a truly international work, filled with updates and practical applications, which is relevant for personnel from different organizations and different nations. It is the international and NSC emphases, along with material from the international health care and humanitarian aid communities, which make this book timely and unique.

**GENERAL OUTLINE--50 CHAPTERS:**

1. Member Care Overview--introduction to the book, the book's main model for member care, missions review and perspectives on suffering/martyrdom (five articles)
2. Regional Issues and Insights--articles about mission personnel from Latin America, Asia, South Asia, Africa, and the Arabic World. (15 articles)
3. Providing and Developing Member Care--articles and worksheets categorized in five sections: Master care, self/mutual care, sender care, specialist care, and network care (based on the main model in the book; 30 articles)

## **BOOK ENDORSEMENTS:**

"We are delighted to launch this global resource for member care into the international mission family. It's global scope is reflected in the diversity of authors and the wide range of topics. Doing Member Care Well is an extensive resource, especially developed to address the member care issues of the missions community from different cultures. This is a mission literature treasure!"

William D. Taylor, Executive Director  
Missions Commission, World Evangelical Alliance

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"Dr. Kelly O'Donnell's newest book is comprehensive and very informative for us in Asia, where member care practice continues to develop. The authors are well selected and do a good job helping us understand many different aspects of member care. I believe that every caregiver and everyone who has oversight for missionaries will benefit from this timely book."

Met Castillo, Philippines  
Executive Director, Missions Commission of the Evangelical Fellowship of Asia

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"It gives me great pleasure to commend Doing Member Care Well. It provides a gold mine of information and offers a fine balance of spirituality, practical information, and common sense. One of the most important contributions is the mixture of current material from both Old and New Sending Countries."

Marjory F. Foyle, United Kingdom  
Consultant Psychiatrist to Missions

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"I am very excited about Doing Member Care Well, as it includes important articles from Latin America and many other regions. Our growing commitment to provide quality pastoral care in Latin American missions will be further enhanced by the models and tools in this book. I heartily welcome this valuable compendium!"

David D. Ruiz M., Guatemala  
President, COMIBAM International

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"This book is indeed a very helpful and timely effort. Written by people of varied ministries and contexts, and competently edited by Dr. Kelly O'Donnell, Doing

Member Care Well is an excellent guide to all those who have committed themselves to the ministry of caring for missionaries."

Francis Sunderaraj, India  
General Secretary, Evangelical Fellowship of Asia

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"Doing Member Care Well is Kelly O'Donnell's third collection of selected missionary member care papers. Its over 60 contributors write from the cutting edge of personnel care. The result is authenticity, information, inspiration and synergy! The vision of Kelly and others is taking shape in reality: quality member care has gone global! This book is a must for all involved in mission."

Kathleen Donovan and Ruth Myors, Australia  
Directors, Health Advisory Unit of Missions Interlink

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"Missionaries, like long-distance runners, need training, care, and coaching to 'run with endurance the race set before them.' Dr. Kelly O'Donnell's book both encourages and instructs the church around the world as it seeks to support its mission personnel. It is highly readable and relevant for us in Africa, and will be an invaluable tool for sending organizations as they to provide and develop member care resources."

Tokunboh Adeyemo, Kenya  
General Secretary, Association of Evangelicals in Africa

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"This book delivers what it promises! Here are fifty cogent chapters from the widest selection of writers in the member care field to date. Part Two alone is worth the price of the book, as it provides a much-needed platform for our international colleagues from the New Sending Countries to share about the development of their own models. Doing Member Care Well takes member care beyond its usual boundaries. It internationalizes this field of service, and increases our resources for Christian workers by including perspectives from the humanitarian aid, human resource, and international health care sectors. Well done!"

Brent Lindquist, United States  
Link Care Center

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