

Share Cluster Ministries – 2011

Name: The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center

Vision: A model of Christ's compassion in our congregation, the community, and the world.

Requested Funding: \$5000

Budgeted funding: 2500 (2010)

Contact person(s): John Newton, 536-8925; Jan McMurray, 536-8855

Description: The mission of The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center, Inc. is to provide services for individuals, couples, families and congregations that will facilitate healing and wholeness in human life and relationships. Services will be provided that any person regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status or faith perspective (and ability to pay).

Pastoral counseling is a unique form of counseling which uses spiritual resources as well as psychological understanding for healing and growth. It is an Ecumenical Ministry, a partnership of congregations uniting in an outreach ministry to the broader community. The Vine offers a variety of services: Pastoral Counseling and Marriage and Family Therapy; Life Enrichment programs; retreats, consultation and counseling for clergy and their families; Spiritual Formation for deepening faith and relationships; Supervision of therapists in training.

Other church participants: FPC Ministers; Stephen Ministers

Joys and successes: The therapists at The Vine have the joy of bringing Christ's healing into people's lives. They see people's lives transformed as depression is lifted, anxiety is turned to peace, marriages are saved and families are enabled to be reconciled with conflicts resolved. In the future, The Vine feels a sense of calling to make services more available by adding additional staff and office locations. This year The Vine has seen a significant increase in the need for Scholarship Assistance. We want to grow to meet the increased demand. The Vine feels blessed by God to be able to provide hope for the weary, healing for the broken-hearted, truth for the lost and reconciliation for damaged relationships.

Volunteer opportunities: Participate on The Vine Board of Directors (two people from FPC, 2010). In the future, The Vine hopes to develop a network of volunteers to assist as receptionist drawing on Stephen Ministers in our supporting churches. FPC is a supporting church.