

# **THE CLERGY COMMITTEE**

**Supporting clergy and strengthening ministries  
through peer consultation**

**[www.theclergycommittee.com](http://www.theclergycommittee.com)**

## **Vision and Mission of TCC**

The mission of The Clergy Committee (TCC) is to equip persons to organize and facilitate groups of religious professionals that meet regularly for a disciplined experience of spiritual, intellectual, and professional development. The vision is to have trained and committed facilitators operating intra-denominational, ecumenical, or interfaith groups across the entire United States. These trained facilitators may be pastoral counselors, church consultants, denominational staff, hospital chaplains, or others who feel a call to this kind of work.

## **The TCC Model**

The Clergy Committee (TCC) and each TCC group is modeled after the very successful corporate model for peer consultation, The Executive Committee (TEC). In TEC, CEOs of non-competing corporations come together monthly as consultants to one another. A chairperson facilitates the process of their advising each other on new opportunities, management skills, goals, and objectives for their companies. They also work on items of personal development. TEC is a very successful international organization, consisting of groups in countries all over the world.

As it has for the CEOs in TEC, TCC has proven to be a very successful, action-oriented peer support model for clergy and religious leaders. The goal is to strengthen the lives and work of these leaders, to help them clarify their vision and goals, and to identify practical steps toward the accomplishment of those goals.

Members of a local TCC meet once a month for a full day. Meetings generally include both time for a resource speaker — an authority on a subject of particular concern to the members — and time for group members to consult to one another.

In addition, each group member schedules a one-on-one session with the facilitator/chairperson during the month to examine and discuss his or her particular ministry and to consider opportunities, goals, and objectives.

The facilitator's role, as the name implies, is to facilitate the operation of the group. Tasks can range from recruiting and establishing a group, to arranging for an outside resource speaker; from facilitating the working of an issue to holding a "one-on-one" with each of the members every month to ensure follow-through and to prepare for next month's issue. Running one group can occupy five days per month.

## **History of TCC**

The Clergy Committee (TCC) was established in Denver, Colorado in 1996 by two people: Fred Chaney, the founder of The Executive Committee (TEC International), and a clergyman, David Delaplane, who has many years of experience as a church pastor. His specialized ministry was in educating and involving congregations nationally on service to victims of crime.

In 1999 TCC groups were formed in Philadelphia and Los Angeles. In the three cities of Denver, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles, TCC groups include inner city clergy and leaders of faith-based programs.

TCC was later expanded to Minneapolis/St. Paul — an intentional interfaith group with members from Catholic, Protestant, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, and Buddhist backgrounds — and to three cities in Texas (Austin, Corpus Christi, and San Antonio), all of which are single denominational groups.

The TCC model has become an effective tool in enhancing the lives and ministries of the members of all of these groups, and is currently being used with five new groups of Methodist pastors in Texas.