

SCOPES OF PRACTICE
AS RECOGNISED BY THE
ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS PRACTITIONERS (ACRP)

A. COUNCIL FOR GENERAL MINISTRY PRACTITIONERS (CGMP)

1. Share the gospel in a specific context and to a specific audience
 - Help faith community to share the gospel of Christ in the community
 - Arrange and oversee efforts to help needy people in the community
 - Help and support people in the faith community to speak out for what is right and fair
2. Build caring relationships in the faith community and respond to the spiritual and physical needs of members
 - Determine needs and strengths in the church / among members of the congregation / faith community (contextual analysis)
 - Facilitate the development of various fellowship groups in the faith community
 - Lead the faith community to show loving care in times of need and crisis
 - Offer basic pastoral care to individuals and groups
 - Develop life skills in the faith community
 - Help people with the Christian way of living
3. Provide spiritual leadership and develop leaders in a faith community
 - Provide spiritual leadership
 - Develop leaders in the faith community
 - Arrange activities (ministries) in the faith community
 - Oversee the day to day running of activities (ministries) in the faith community
 - Talk to and remind the faith community about their role and duties as Christians
4. Arrange and oversee the day to day running of ministries and of the administrative and accountability processes the faith community
 - Guide ministry management processes
 - Oversee the implementation of effective administrative processes and procedures in the congregation / faith community
 - Oversee financial management processes in the faith community
 - Strengthen accountability practices
5. Help people in the faith community to share the gospel, support people in need and speak out for what is right and fair
6. Lead members of the faith community in spiritual formation that nurtures their relationship with God - in accordance with the traditions and the scope of practice and / or ordination as defined by the relevant church or faith community
 - Prepare sermons and/or other teaching and learning experiences that will address the spiritual needs of the faith community
 - Conduct worship services and/or other teaching and learning experiences within the faith community
 - Administer sacraments within the faith community
 - Interact with groups and individuals in order to facilitate spiritual growth
7. Develop and nurture fellowship and mutual care within the faith community, aimed at achieving the following
 - Nurture fellowship among members of the faith community
 - Lead the faith community to show loving care in times of need or crisis
8. Facilitate the holistic well-being of people within the faith community by developing pro-active and reactive

- (coping) life skills and a Christian value system
- Lead members of the faith community to live according to a Christian value system and Christian virtues
 - Develop pro-active and reactive (coping) life skills in the faith community through preaching, teaching and mentoring
9. Provide visional leadership that leads to obedience to vocation, as well as well-being and sustainability of members of the faith community
- Lead a faith community through visionary spiritual leadership (strategic management as a spiritual discipline)
 - Facilitate effective ministries in a faith community (operational management as a spiritual discipline)
 - Facilitate stewardship processes in the faith community (stewardship as a spiritual discipline)
10. Develop and implement a missional practice that shares the good news of Jesus Christ and serves the holistic well-being of the entire community
- Mobilise the faith community to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the world
 - Plan and execute outreach programs to deal with socio-economic and other relevant needs in the wider community
 - Initiate and / or participate in interventions to deal with needs and emergency situations in the community
 - Participate in inter-faith community development initiatives
 - Conduct and promote spiritual advocacy relating to social justice issues
 - Plan and manage the effective use of media
11. Other elements of the work of a pastor / person in ministry not covered under the previous points – with a brief motivation of how this contributes to professional development of a pastor

B. COUNCIL FOR PASTORAL AND SPIRITUAL COUNSELLORS

1. Pastoral and Spiritual Caregiver (minimum qualification on NQF Level 2)

This is the most basic level of care, provided when members of a faith community care for each other. This usually takes place within an informal network of communities (e.g. friendships, small prayer groups, telephone conversations and spontaneous reactions to crises).

- Practises under supervision of a person with an applicable professional qualification on NQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 but not in his own private practice.
- Seeks the spiritual well-being of the individual with the purpose to heal, sustain, guide and reconcile.
- Assists people to develop, grow and mature spiritually in spite of the difficulties of life. Helping them be connected to God and the worshipping community primarily enables this to occur.

2. Pastoral and Spiritual Counsellor (3 levels, minimum qualification on NQF Level 6))

- Engages in basic pastoral and spiritual caregiving within the pastoral encounter regarding the multi-dimensional human needs of people in different contexts of human suffering and distress such as HIV/aids, hospital caregiving, home-based caregiving, crisis caregiving and community caregiving.
- Identifies basic symptoms of suffering and distress of a client and refers to an appropriate professional within primary, secondary and tertiary health care systems (e.g. more advanced pastoral and spiritual care practitioner, medical practitioners, psychologists, social workers or other appropriate professionals) and cooperates with other professions in the field of helping and healing.
- Provides basic support and guidance regarding traumatic events in life like unexpected loss and how to deal with the spiritual demands and challenges of meaning-giving to settings of suffering, sickness (such as HIV/aids, substance dependency), death and dying
- Engages in basic pastoral and spiritual education and training practises under supervision of a person with an applicable professional qualification on NQF level 8, 9 or 10 but not in his own private practice.
- Comforts people in different contexts of human suffering and distress on a short to medium term basis and helps them in processes of decision-making regarding the meaning and purpose of life.
- Interprets pastoral and spiritual dynamics and dysfunction of a client and refers to an appropriate professional within primary, secondary and tertiary health care systems and cooperates with other professions in the field of helping and healing.
- Provides basic and short term pastoral and spiritual caregiving within the pastoral encounter regarding the multi-dimensional human needs of people in different contexts of human suffering and distress such as HIV/aids, hospital caregiving, home-based caregiving, substance dependency, crisis caregiving and community caregiving.
- Supports and facilitate transformation, promote spiritual well-being regarding people's quest for help and meaning in suffering within an interdisciplinary approach.
- Keeps to an ethical code of conduct that reflects the unique contribution of caregiving to helping and healing.

3. Pastoral and Spiritual Counselling Specialist (2 levels, minimum qualification on NQF Level 9))

In addition to the practice of the "Pastoral and Spiritual Counsellor, the Pastoral and Spiritual Counselling Specialist may -

- Operate a private practice with supervision of a person with an applicable professional qualification on NQF level 9 or 10.
- Comfort people in different clinical settings and assists them to develop life skills in order to promote holistic healing of not only individual people, but life as a whole.
- Make in-depth diagnosis of spiritual and religious pathology in order to deal with demands of spiritual healing/therapy within an individual, faith community and/or social system and refers to an appropriate professional within primary, secondary and tertiary health care systems and cooperate with other professions in the field of helping and healing.
- Provide pastoral and spiritual counselling to very specific, specialised fields of helping and healing, such as HIV/aids, hospital caregiving, home-based caregiving, substance dependency, crisis counselling and community caregiving.

- Provide advanced, complex and specialised long term supportive and reconstructive pastoral and spiritual counselling or therapy.
- Offers advanced pastoral and spiritual education and training
- Develop different enriching programmes in order to apply the principle of prevention in life care (cura vitae) and community development.
- Apply accepted pastoral and spiritual assessment techniques, procedures and instruments and diagnostic methodology
- Applies the principle of a team and holistic approach in multi-disciplinarity.
- Do academic and scientific research and contributes articles on different topics in the field of pastoral and spiritual caregiving and healing for publication in accredited journals.
- Refers to an appropriate professional within primary, secondary and tertiary health care systems and cooperates with other professions in the field of helping and healing.
- Be available to provide expert advice and opinion when requested.

C. COUNCIL FOR MINISTRY TRAINING PRACTITIONERS (CMTP)

The CMTP scope of practice cover formal and informal training related to any of the practices and activities covered in or related to sections A and B, as well as all aspects of managing a training facility.