Mental Health Survey Results

1. If a teen has a mental health diagnosis, parents are likely struggling too. How the faith community can support both.

2. “There’s the kid” - How to approach a family when a child in church program doesn’t have a diagnosis, but seems to fit known criteria (ADHD, autism, etc). Flexible ministry planning to include the teen who doesn’t neatly fit ministry model.

3. Providing adult mentorship for students with high functioning autism. Related intentional relationship building with ‘loners’ or people who are isolated.

4. Training adults to be youth/teen mentors or buddies. Defining parameters for this service.

5. Answering common questions about mental illness and faith. (Where is God in my mental health diagnosis?). Learning how to love well and forgive well (because mental health issues often require a lot of forgiveness.
Things Churches Should Do **BEFORE** Launching Mental Health Ministry

- Ask *Who/What/When/Where/Why/How* questions
- Get *proper authorizations* to move forward
- Take it *seriously*
- *Mental Health Liaison*
Mental Health Ministry

First Year

1. Start with basics. Pray!
2. Care Team
3. Communications
4. Training and Education
5. Make Connections
6. Address Objections
7. Mental Health Liaison
Discussion

• Things that some churches are doing well?

• Ideas for improvement?

• Key Ministry network of churches supportive of individuals and families with disabilities of all kinds
Key Ministry
Plans for 2019

- More Mental Health video
- Roundtable discussions
- Addressing the top five and equipping churches
- Inclusion Fusion April 5 - 6, 2019 in Cleveland
- Funding