

Information about Hospital Chaplains

Hospital Chaplains offer a compassionate and supportive presence in times of stress, transition, and loss. They promote wholeness and the well-being of patients, residents, families, and hospital staff.

Hospital Chaplains are an integrated member of the healthcare team, utilizing holistic and relational approach.

They can help people to draw upon their own sources of strength and wisdom in their healing process. Hospital Chaplains promote human diversity and inclusion. They honour and respect the person's unique journey integrating their cultural, philosophical, religious, and spiritual traditions.

The kind of situation that Hospital Chaplain is involved with:

- Crisis situations or trauma
- Experiences of loss (such as death, pregnancy loss, loss of functionality)
- New diagnosis or exacerbation of chronic illness
- End of life support, ceremony or ritual
- Responds to request for prayer, communion/sacraments, or visits from various faith leaders
- Staff support
- Seasonal worship services
- Scheduled memorial services

People who benefit from a Hospital Chaplain are those:

- Experiencing spiritual, emotional, or existential distress related to changes in health, ability, and life circumstances
- Struggling with meaning in life and death
- Reflecting on meaning and purpose in life
- Wrestling with experience of loss, self-worth, hospitalization, or isolation
- Grieving the death of a loved one
- Coming to terms with bad news or with a future which has become more uncertain
- Finding it difficult to cope
- Wishing to explore their understanding of God/Divine
- Seeking support in ethical decision-making
- Family members experiencing stress



Education and/or Registrations
Minimum Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Commencement of a master's degree in theology or related field of studies from an accredited theological college. Completion of undergraduate degree in theology or related field of studies.</i>• <i>Advanced standing in CASC/ACSS required.</i> License(s)/Certificate(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Membership with the Canadian Association of Spiritual Care (CASC/ACSS).</i>
Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Master's degree in theology or related field of studies from an accredited theological college.</i>• <i>Specialist certification in Supervised Pastoral Education from a CASC/ACSS accredited program preferred.</i>
Experience, Skills and Competencies
Minimum Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>One year of related experience in institutional ministry.</i> Special Knowledge/Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Suitable knowledge and abilities required for working within a continuing care or acute care setting, as well as with primary patient populations: women's health, intensive care/critical care, surgery, psychiatry, medicine, palliative, geriatrics, emergency or pediatrics.</i>• <i>Demonstrated understanding and ability to work in a multi-faith, multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary setting.</i>• <i>Commitment to personal and professional integration, as well as spiritual, psychological and emotional integration.</i>• <i>Ability to engage in theological reflection.</i>• <i>Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.</i>• <i>Computer skills – Email, outlook scheduling, electronic health programs as needed</i>• <i>Ability to listen, counsel, and be present.</i>• <i>Ability to be non-judgmental, maintain confidence, and affirm individual worth.</i>
Preferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Three years of experience providing spiritual care in a healthcare setting.</i>