

Scope of Practice

Certified Spiritual Care Practitioners and Psycho- Spiritual Therapists seek to improve the quality of life for individuals and groups experiencing spiritual, moral and existential distress related to changes in health, maturation, ability, and life circumstances. They utilize a holistic, relational approach to assess the nature and extent of the concerns, collaboratively develop a plan of care, provide therapeutic interventions to promote, maintain, and restore health and/ or palliate illness and injury, and evaluate the implementation of the plan of care to ensure its efficacy and effectiveness.

Spiritual Care

Professional Practice Leader (Charlton, King, West 5th):
KEITH METCALFE

Number of Members of Discipline:

SITE	FTE	PTE	POSITION
Charlton	7.1		Director-1.0; Admin-0.6; Educators 3.0; Chaplains-3; Residents 1.0
King	0		By referral only.
West 5th	3.5		Chaplains-3.5 ; Residents 1.0

Major Achievements

CARING

Clinical Practice:

- Introduction of a policy related to Smudging inside and outside of the buildings. Members of the Spiritual Care team and leadership, worked in collaboration with patients, staff, and members of the Indigenous community to create a foundational Smudging Policy and related procedures to ensure the respectful and safe provision of Smudging Ceremonies within and outside of the buildings of SJHH.

LEARNING

Education:

- The Spiritual Care Department continues to offer units of Clinical Psycho-spiritual Education (CPE) formerly known as Clinical Pastoral Education through a year-long residency as well as individual units.

Clinical Education

- 4 Spiritual Care Residents.
- 3 Additional Learners.
- Preparation underway toward offering of an additional Summer Unit of Clinical Psycho-Spiritual Education (CPE) to run con-currently to the Spiritual Care residency.

LEARNING Continued...

Formal Teaching

- Recruitment of 2 new Spiritual Care Educators.
- Process underway to form new Academic Affiliation Agreement with McMaster Divinity College.
- The Spiritual Care Department also has SJHS System-Wide Academic Affiliation Agreements with Martin Luther University College, Know & Emanuel Colleges (University of Toronto) and the Diocese of Hamilton.
- Spiritual Care staff provided a 'Deacon Candidate' with mentorship and supervision as part of the candidate's training in providing 'pastoral visits' to patients while in hospital. The candidate visits many patients at the West 5th Campus.

Research

- Extending the 3 Wishes Project to GIM.

Publications

- A Spiritual Care Staff contributed to a recently published journal article:
"BMC - Enhancing end of life care on general internal medical wards: the 3 Wishes Project"

BUILDING

Professional Practice Development:

Spiritual Care staff have logged 253.5 hours of continuing education on and off site.

Highlights:

- In March, the Spiritual Care Department, along with the St. Joseph's Health System Spiritual Care Community of Practice took in a day-long workshop on 'Ambiguous Loss.'
- The department took in together the on-site Unconscious Bias Training offered through the Organizational Development team in September.
- Many Spiritual Care Practitioners took the online course entitled "Indigenous Canada" offered from the University of Alberta.
- Spiritual Care staff member graduated with a Master of Arts Degree in Spiritual Care and Psychotherapy from Martin Luther University College (Completed Oct. 2022).
- The Spiritual Care Department took part in the region's CASC AMG and took in the keynote address from veteran Spiritual Care Practitioner, research, and professor.
- Member of the Spiritual Care team took part of the Mission Leadership Program offered by the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario.
- Hosted a St. Joseph's Health System Spiritual Care Community of Practice 'Retreat' in Fisherville, Ontario in October 2022 – theme was experiential and spiritual rejuvenation.

LEADING

- In collaboration with the Senior Leaders, the EDI Council, Public Affairs, and the 2SLGBTQ+ Affinity Group, Spiritual Care members supported planning and facilitation of the PRIDE Flag Raising Ceremonies across sites and virtually.
- Worked with Indigenous Leaders to organize a 'Drumming Circle' as part of the observance of National Indigenous People's Day in June.
- Collaborated with Public Affairs, AV, members of the ELT, and Indigenous Leadership (Traditional Healer and Indigenous Patient Navigator) to develop an educational video about smudging to be embedded within the new Smudging Policy.
- Collaborated with EDI and retail services to facilitate a procurement and sale of Orange 'Every Child Matters' Shirts as part of the larger observance of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We were able to sell every shirt and directed all proceeds (\$5,000) to the Woodland Cultural Centre and the Orange Shirt Society.
- Continue to finance Schwartz Rounds and Stress First Aid and collaborate with an inter-professional team of facilitators.

Committees:

- Canadian Association for Spiritual Care – Professional Practice Commission regional rep.

Major Initiatives for 2023:

LEARNING

- Looking at having all spiritual care staff and current learners training in 'Crucial Conversations.'



Orange Shirt Day 2022

BUILDING

- Ordered 10,000 silicone bracelets to be gifted to all staff across the St. Joseph's Health System with 'St. Joseph's Health System - Living the Legacy' debossed on the external side and the Health System's values written on the inside, promoting awareness of our System identity.
- Looking logistically at extending Schwartz Rounds across the St. Joseph's Health System.