What is Clinical Pastoral Education?

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is theological and professional education for ministry. In CPE, theology students, ordained clergy, members of religious orders, and qualified laypeople minister to people in crisis situations while being supervised. Through intense involvement with supervisors, other students, people in crisis, and other professionals, CPE students are challenged to improve the quality of their pastoral relationships. Pastoral practice, written case studies and verbatim, individual supervision, seminar participation, and relevant reading encourage students to develop genuine caring pastoral relationships. As they view complicated life situations from different viewpoints, students gain new insights and understandings about the human situation. Theological reflection is important in CPE, as pastoral people seek ways to integrate theology with life experience.

CPE at Methodist Health System

At Methodist Health System, the CPE chaplain has the opportunity to learn pastoral care in an interfaith setting through ministry in patient parishes at Methodist Dallas Medical Center, Methodist Charlton Medical Center, or Methodist Mansfield Medical Center and through reflection in seminars and didactics. Methodist Health System offers CPE chaplains a dynamic and progressive environment in which to grow professionally and personally. Challenged to integrate their religious perspectives and theological assumptions with the realities of human care, chaplains will find both strong educational and emotional support through individual supervision and peer group seminars designed to encourage personal and professional pastoral growth.

The training at Methodist Health System can be applied to an Association of Professional Chaplains certification, Clinical Membership in ACPE, parish ministry, ordination/seminary requirements, pastoral counseling, and hospital chaplaincy.

Level I /Level II and Supervisory Education

- Residency
- Summer
- Extended
- Supervisory

Theological Integration Seminars focus on integrating theological insights with actual ministry events.

Interpersonal Relationship (IPR) is a peer group learning experience designed to assist chaplains in exploring various personal and professional issues that may arise during their ministry.

Verbatim Seminars serve to review and critique verbatim reports of actual pastoral visits.

Didactic Seminars include lectures and presentations from interdisciplinary professionals and supervisors on pastoral, ethical, and health care concerns.

Worship Seminars offer residents the opportunity to review worship leading and receive feedback from their supervisors.

Individual Supervision with one of the supervisors.

Interdisciplinary Case Studies offer residents an opportunity to reflect with other health and pastoral care professionals on individual cases.

CPE chaplains at Methodist Health System will provide care through prayer at the bedside, worship in the chapel, and pastoral presence in the midst of healing and loss to:

- trauma patients from Dallas and the surrounding areas
- kidney and liver transplant recipients and donors
- cancer patients and their families
- parents whose premature newborn remains in the neonatal intensive care unit

Application

Methodist Health System accepts the standard application of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education. The application fee is $25. You may request an application by calling 214-947-7670 or visit Click Here.

Affiliation

Methodist Health System is in a Covenant relationship with the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church.