



CLINICAL
Pastoral Education
AT JFK MEDICAL CENTER

A Place of Prayer

A Place of Prayer creates a sacred, welcoming environment for individuals of all faiths. It embraces diversity by inviting persons of all backgrounds to meditate and reflect during times of personal stress, loss and joy. Although A Place of Prayer may represent something different for each individual, it provides visitors the opportunity to retreat from the outside world and immerse themselves in quiet, meditative reflection. Our hope is that this sacred space offers warmth, light and peace to those who seek them.

We are thankful to the religious leaders, congregations and residents of the diverse communities JFK Medical Center serves, who – through their benevolence – have supported A Place of Prayer and the Clinical Pastoral Education Program. We look forward to a continuing and promising collaborative relationship that will enable the Pastoral Care Program to remain strong and effective.

To make a donation contact:

The JFK Foundation

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JFK
MEDICAL
CENTER

65 James Street

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JFK
MEDICAL
CENTER

JFK Medical Center

recognizes the importance of the

integration of healthcare

for the whole person:

physical, emotional,

and spiritual.

The Pastoral Care department

at JFK offers a Clinical

Pastoral Education Program

that provides emotional

and spiritual support

to persons of all faiths.

About Clinical Pastoral Education

The Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Program at JFK Medical Center is a professional Pastoral Care program that provides theological training and experiential learning in an interactive group environment and clinical setting. This integrated approach offers persons from all faith traditions the opportunity to develop pastoral competency and serve as chaplains for all faiths, providing pastoral care to patients, families and friends, and hospital staff during times of emotional and spiritual crisis.



JFK: A Unique Learning Environment

JFK Medical Center, an affiliate of Solaris Health System, is a comprehensive 400-plus bed acute care Community Hospital located in the heart of Edison. It has been a cornerstone of the community since 1967 and is a vital link to the continuum of care for residents, offering preventive, acute and sub-acute, rehabilitative, and long-term care. JFK is home to such specialty services as the New Jersey Neuroscience Institute; Haven Hospice; Cancer Center of JFK; Center for Head Injuries; and JFK Hartwyck Nursing, Convalescent and Rehabilitative Centers.

The interdisciplinary healthcare team, along with JFK's multi-ethnic and culturally diverse environment, presents a unique learning platform for students. Here, students study in a dynamic and supportive atmosphere that embraces cultural and religious differences necessary to approach issues from an open and unbiased perspective. Students benefit from studying under the supervision of the Rev. Annari Griesel, PhD, Director of Pastoral Care, who brings to the program extensive experience in culturally and religiously diverse clinical settings of Pastoral Care.

Curriculum Components

Our curriculum encompasses numerous components, including:

- Introduction to the Medical Center and Pastoral Care
- Patient Care and On-Call Coverage
- Various Cultural Perspectives on Illness
- Verbatim Seminars with Theological Reflection
- Interpersonal Relations Seminars and Team Building
- Didactic Seminars on Hospital and Pastoral Care Issues
- Field Trips to Diverse Places of Worship; Opportunity to interact with religious leaders from various faith traditions
- Individual Supervision with Rev. Annari Griesel, PhD

Types of Programs

A typical unit of CPE requires a minimum of 400 hours of supervised ministry in a clinical setting. JFK offers an extended unit (September – May) and a summer unit (June-August), with each CPE unit granted by the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy, Inc.

For more information, or to apply to the CPE program, contact the Pastoral Care department at 732.321.7512.

The Significance Behind the Stain Glass

The stained glass is a symbolic reminder of the work the Chaplains at JFK Medical Center perform. Just as each broken piece of the completed stain glass window creates a visual mosaic symbolizing the seasons of the year, Chaplains use the art of pastoral care to help patients take broken pieces of their lives to create mosaics of hope, love and care. The Pastoral Care Team at JFK Medical Center embraces the capacity for “broken pieces” to become mosaics of faith, acceptance, and spiritual wholeness for individuals during difficult times.