Clinical Pastoral Education: Spiritual Care Training

Our Mission
We are called to reveal the healing love of Jesus to those in need.

Our Values
Reverence, Compassion, Justice, Excellence

Clinical Placement Sites:
Catholic Health hospitals, clinics and continuing care facilities. Site agreements can also be pursued with hospitals, community organizations or faith communities where you provide spiritual care as an employee or volunteer.

How much time is required for one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)?
A unit of CPE consists of 400 supervised hours. At least 100 hours are spent in the group process, and at least 300 hours are spent in direct ministry to persons. Several hours a week are required to complete outside assignments.

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE):
Sisters of Charity Hospital
2157 Main Street • Buffalo, NY 14214

Fr. Christopher Okoli
Director, Clinical Pastoral Education
Email: cokoli@chsbuffalo.org
Phone: (716) 862-1374 • Fax: (716) 862-1644
chsbuffalo.org/mission/clinical-pastoral-education

CPE is Accredited by:
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPE)
One West Court Square, Suite 325
Decatur, GA 30030
Phone: (404) 320-1472 • Fax: (404) 320-0849
Email: acpe@acpe.edu

Affiliation:
National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC)
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Commission On Certification and Accreditation
USCCB/CCA
3211 South Lake Drive, Suite 317
St. Francis, WI 53235-3602
Phone: (414) 486-0139 • Fax: (414) 489-0006
www.usccbccac.edu

US Department of Education:
ACPE is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. This allows centers to provide educational credits to Seminary and College Students.
Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

CPE is interfaith professional education for ministry. It is an action-reflection-action model of adult education based on the interaction between a student’s ministry and reflection within a supervised peer group. Through their reflection on ministerial encounters, peers and supervisor provide helpful feedback to the student in developing self-awareness as a minister. The CPE environment challenges the student to reach out in new ways and to take risks in an educational environment that is safe and conducive to learning and growing in pastoral ways.

In all of our settings, students gain ministry experiences which become the focus of our Pastoral Consultations, in which students present material for feedback and discussion.

Essential Elements in CPE Include:
- The actual practice of ministry to persons.
- Detailed reporting and evaluation of the practice.
- Pastoral supervision by an ACPE Certified Educator.
- A specific time period (400 hours).
- An individual contract for learning.
- ACPE accreditation of the CPE center.

The Individual Learning Contract:
The CPE participant’s contract is developed around the learning goals of:
- Pastoral Reflection - reflection on one’s self as person and spiritual care giver in relationship with people in need, the educator and peer group members, as well as the curricular topics and the clinical context.
- Pastoral Formation - focus on personal and pastoral identity issues in learning and ministry.
- Pastoral Competence - deepening and unfolding of competence in pastoral function, pastoral skills and knowledge of theology and the behavioral sciences.

Sisters of Charity Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education Programs Level I, Level II & Certified Educator Training

CPE Internships:
- Part-time Acute & Continuing Care Programs: Fall – Spring: 26 week Extended Unit (approx. 17 hrs./wk)
- Part-time Community Based CPE Program: Fall – Spring: 26 week Extended Unit (approx. 17 hrs./wk) Clinical sites in Rochester and Buffalo areas.
- Summer Intensive Program: Late May – Mid-August, 11-12 weeks (40 hrs./wk)
- CPE Hybrid Program: Students participate in the above programs using synchronous on-line video conferencing and meet face-to-face several times during the unit with the group.

CPE Residency:
Full time stipendiary position at both campuses of Sisters of Charity Hospital for one year. Benefits provided (healthcare plan & PTO)

Certified Educator Training:
3-6 year training to become an ACPE Certified Educator.

Internship Application Requirements:
- A completed application
- A $50 non-refundable application fee
- An admission interview
- A basic college degree
- Adequate background in theology to participate in theological reflection, completion of one year of theological training preferred.
- Ability to reflect on ministry and learn from experiences
- Participate in an adult learning model
- Application requirements for the CPE Residency and Certified Educator training are available on our website.

“Our hand prints don’t fade from the lives we touch.”

Graduation of CPE Group.