



Chaplaincy Services

Our Mission

The mission of Riverview Health Chaplaincy Services is to preserve the health and spiritual well-being of those we serve.

Chaplains seek to provide a compassionate presence and a safe environment in which persons can process everything from a personal crisis of faith to questions of meaning and purpose. It is the nature of chaplains to walk alongside others in their spiritual journey, providing a haven of respect and empathetic care. A place for faith, hope and love.

Spiritual Care for Patients and Families Provided 24/7

- Response to patient codes
- Presence and availability for crisis intervention and bereavement support
- Therapeutic presence and spiritual support for patients and families
- Participation in clinical rounds
- Integration of spiritual care in overall care plan
- Assist patients in accessing their faith community or spiritual care provider
- In collaboration with community clergy, assure availability of sacramental services per respective faith traditions
- Assistance with processing advanced directives and end-of-life decisions
- Ethics consultations
- Advocate for patients
- Provision of special interfaith chapel services and memorial services
- Provision of diverse devotional materials and sacred texts
- Documentation in patient chart of spiritual assessment, care provided and follow-up plan
- Education for staff
- Ministry of presence and pastoral counseling
- Staff debriefings and participation on the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team

Community Services and Programs

The Chaplaincy Services Department provides education and training on:

- Spiritual Care Hospital Visitation Training
- End-of-life issues (death, bereavement, advance directives)
- Spirituality and healing, diversity and ethics
- Other topics as requested



Spiritual Care Volunteer Program

A dedicated Spiritual Care Volunteer program, in collaboration with Volunteer Services, provides specially trained persons from diverse faith communities who work together to provide a heartfelt care by:

- Visiting new patients with care and kindness to introduce Spiritual Care services.
- Providing a compassionate presence and listening ear to patients and families throughout Riverview Health
- Contacting clergy as requested by patients
- Providing spiritual resources and prayer, as requested.

Available for Your needs

- Bibles and interfaith devotional materials are available upon request.
- The chapel is open 24 hours a day to anyone seeking solace through prayers and meditation (located on the 2nd floor between ER and outpatient lab).
- A prayer journal is available for those wishing to have their prayer request remembered by others. The chapel has many regular attendees that appreciate the opportunity to pray for others.
- Catholic Eucharistic Ministers routinely visit providing communion upon request.

When to Call a Chaplain

- When you desire spiritual/emotional support
- When you or your family desire prayer, communion, baptism, sacrament of the sick, or anointing
- When you desire a better understanding of your relationship with God, or a need for spiritual guidance and direction
- When you desire spiritual support as you undergo medical or surgical treatment
- When you are wrestling with religious issues such as unresolved grief, lack of faith, inability to pray, a sense of being abandoned by God, anger at God, or experience loss of hope or meaning of life
- When you need information about community religious congregations

How to Contact a Chaplain

Outside the hospital, call 317.776.7391 (Monday-Friday). Inside the hospital, use any phone and dial "57391" (please leave a message if the chaplain does not answer). You may also ask your attending physician or nurse to contact the chaplain. For information on specific services or programs call the department office at 317.776.7391.