

# PROFESSIONAL CHAPLAIN COMPETENCIES

## Section I. Theory of Pastoral Care Competencies

TPC1: Articulate a theology of spiritual care that is integrated with a theory of pastoral practice.

TPC2: Incorporate a working knowledge of psychological and sociological disciplines and religious beliefs and practices in the provision of pastoral care.

TPC3: Incorporate the spiritual and emotional dimensions of human development into the practice of pastoral care.

TPC4: Incorporate a working knowledge of ethics appropriate to the pastoral context.

TPC5: Articulate a conceptual understanding of group dynamics and organizational behavior.

## Section II: Identity and Conduct Competencies

IDC1: Function pastorally in a manner that respects the physical, emotional, and spiritual boundaries of others.

IDC2: Use pastoral authority appropriately.

IDC3: Identify one's professional strengths and limitations in the provision of pastoral care.

IDC4: Articulate ways in which one's feelings, attitudes, values and assumptions affect one's pastoral care.

IDC5: Advocate for the persons in one's care.

IDC6: Function within the Common Code of Ethics for Chaplains, Pastoral Counselors, Pastoral Educators and Students.

IDC7: Attend to one's own physical, emotional and spiritual well-being.

IDC8: Communicate effectively orally and in writing.

IDC9: Present oneself in a manner that reflects professional behavior, including appropriate attire and personal hygiene.

## Section III: Pastoral Competencies

PAS1: Establish, deepen and end pastoral relationships with sensitivity, openness and respect.

PAS2: Provide effective pastoral support that contributes to well-being of patients, their families and staff. (assoc., prov. & BCC)

PAS3: Provide pastoral care that respects diversity and differences including, but not limited to culture, gender, sexual orientation and spiritual/religious practices.

PAS4: Triage and manage crises in the practice of pastoral care.

PAS5: Provide pastoral care to persons experiencing loss and grief.

PAS6: Formulate and utilize spiritual assessments in order to contribute to plans of care.

PAS7: Provide religious/spiritual resources appropriate to the care of patients, families and staff.

PAS8: Develop, coordinate and facilitate public worship/spiritual practices appropriate to diverse settings and needs.

PAS9: Facilitate theological reflection in the practice of pastoral care.

## Section IV: Professional Competencies

PRO1: Promote the integration of pastoral/spiritual care into the life and service of the institution in which it resides.

PRO2: Establish and maintain professional and interdisciplinary relationships.

PRO3: Articulate an understanding of institutional culture and systems and systemic relationships.

PRO4: Support, promote and encourage ethical decision-making and care.

PRO5: Document one's contribution of care effectively in the appropriate records.

PRO6: Foster a collaborative relationship with community clergy and faith group leaders.