Starting out in Health Care Chaplaincy

A course designed to introduce prospective Chaplains to the world of Health Care and Chaplaincy

Guide for Faith Communities
October 2015 DJH
The purpose of this course is to -

- Enable potential chaplains to explore if Chaplaincy in a health care setting is for them.
- Develop an awareness of Health Care Chaplaincy in the 21st century.
- Explore ways of accessing Chaplaincy opportunities from volunteering to full-time substantive posts.

Prospective Chaplains / Chaplaincy Volunteers

Health Care Chaplaincy is a challenging and rewarding expression of faith / belief in action and contributes to the health and wellbeing not only of individuals but their community and the nation.

In order to meet the pastoral, spiritual and religious needs of a diverse community of patients and staff we need a diverse Chaplaincy community.

If an individual from your community would like to explore this vocation the following information may help in discerning if this course is for them:

1. If your community has adopted the Five Marks of Chaplaincy (appendix 1), does the prospective Chaplain/ Volunteer / Visitor agree with them?
2. If the individual does not hold the relevant DBS will the faith community support that application (fees and form filling).
3. The individual will need a placement – up to 20 hours over about 8 weeks (see appendix 2 The Reflective Learning Log). Are you able to source that placement and offer a ‘faith / belief community’ tutor?
4. The taught elements of the course are spread over two days. Travel to the course and placement (if required) will need to be paid by the faith / belief community or the individual.
5. The course itself has no cost to the participants. There are no course fees.

Each community is responsible for selecting suitable candidates. The overall maximum number of participants on the course is 20, and the minimum is 8.

The closing date for confirmed applications is January 29th 2016.

Details of the course timetable can be found in appendix 3.
Appendix 1  Five Marks of Chaplaincy

5 Marks of Chaplaincy

Agreed by the Free Churches Group (2009) and the MFGHC (2011)

- To maintain personal spirituality and faith / belief through support from and contribution to their local congregation / faith or belief community.

- To maintain their positions as an ordained / authorised minister / pastor / membership of their denomination / faith / belief community and to provide a yearly statement acknowledging this.

- To work with those from all faith traditions and belief groups and none in a spirit of concord and support for the welfare of patients, relatives, staff and the institution.

- At no time to proselytize or in any other way attempt to coerce or convert patients, staff or relatives, but always to act with respect and courtesy.

- To continue Personal and Professional Development as a Chaplain, and submit an annual return detailing work undertaken that has directly enhanced the care of patients, relatives, staff and the institution.
Starting out in Health Care Chaplaincy

Reflective Learning Log

Name.................................................................

Placement........................................................

Reflective Log
October 2015 DJH
The purpose of this course is to -

- Enable you to explore if Chaplaincy in a health care setting is for you.
- Develop an awareness of Health Care Chaplaincy in the 21st century.
- Explore ways of accessing chaplaincy opportunities from volunteering to full-time substantive posts.

This placement will enable you to develop in terms of your personal identity, your pastoral/professional identity (potential role and work as chaplains) and your spiritual / faith / belief identity.

Placement

This Placement you will enable you to experience the work of chaplaincy as part of a chaplaincy team and explore issues of faith and belief in relation to healthcare chaplaincy.

You are expected to complete a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 20 hours spread over a period of about 8 weeks.

During this period you will explore aspects of chaplaincy practice that relate to the following:

- Healthcare provision
- Faith / belief-based teachings on caring for the sick and dying
- Beginning and end-of-life care and related faith / belief-based ethical and moral considerations

This experience will be recorded in the Reflective Learning Log.

During this period you will meet for with your faith / belief community tutor to reflect on practice and explore issues raised by the experience, and you can make contact with your course tutor:

- Debbie Hodge (tel: 020 3651 8337)
- Nigel Goodfellow (tel: 0191 282 1510)
- Keith Munnings (tel: 07931 532006)

You will also share your learning with the Chaplaincy team and have support from a designated Chaplain in the team.
Reflective Practice

Reflective practice is the key to good professional practice!

Moon - “reflective practice as "a set of abilities and skills, to indicate the taking of a critical stance, an orientation to problem solving or state of mind" (1999: 63).

Biggs - “reflection in a mirror is an exact replica of what is in front of it. Reflection in professional practice, however, gives back not what it is, but what might be, an improvement on the original" (1999: 6).

The process of Reflection can be seen in the example below:-

Gibbs Reflective Cycle (1988)

Why is this important in Chaplaincy?

‘Reflective practice is not only about reflecting on our chaplaincy work to inform how we engage with others in the future and to help us explore the theology, world view and values that underpin our approach. It also fundamentally helps us to develop our self-awareness and the understanding.’ (Kelly 2012)

Sometimes we are Novices in new situations, we need to try out ideas, discuss how we work and learn not only from our mistakes but from our successes. If we reflect on our actions we can learn something of ourselves, if we reflect with others we can learn more! Learning from others is crucial, because chaplaincy is about team work, not just the chaplaincy team but the multi-disciplinary team that care for the patients.

By reflecting on practice we are acting in a professional way, and should be able to identify our learning and developmental needs in this process.
References


Other useful literature


Leach and Paterson (2010) *Pastoral Supervision*. SCM.


Reflective Log

Please complete the two pages of details and send one to your Course Tutor

Your Name and contact details

Name of Chaplaincy link person and contact details

Faith / Belief Tutor and contact details

Course Tutor and contact details

Place of placement
Address

Brief description (Acute / Mental Health/ Hospice/ teaching hospital)
Reflective Log

Please complete the two pages of details and send one to your Course Tutor

Your Name and contact details

Name of Chaplaincy link person and contact details

Faith / Belief Tutor and contact details

Course Tutor and contact details

Place of placement
Address

Brief description (Acute / Mental Health/ Hospice/ teaching hospital)
 Attendance
Please complete the chart below noting your attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>General Description of Activity</th>
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<tbody>
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Reflective Practice
From your experience / observations and utilising the Reflective cycle:-

1. Note how the Chaplaincy team contributes to the provision of Health Care within the care setting.
2. Explore how your faith / belief, tradition and teachings impact on the care of the sick.
3. Explore your own reaction to those who are dying and what your faith / belief tradition speaks into such situations.
4. Explore a moral / ethical situation noting any dissonance between that which was observed and the view of your faith / belief tradition.

These reflections will form the basis of some shared learning in the second part of the course. Please remember to anonymize the narrative so that patient confidentiality is maintained.
Appendix 3

Course outline and time table.

First Taught element
To be held at Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9WL
Date:– Monday 15th February 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session title</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.45am</td>
<td>What is Chaplaincy?</td>
<td>History of Chaplaincy in the NHS Models of Chaplaincy – practice and delivery</td>
<td>Understand the development of chaplaincy in the NHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>Coffee / Tea</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45am</td>
<td>Working in the NHS</td>
<td>Structure of NHS Position of Chaplaincy in the modern hospital</td>
<td>Understand the position of Chaplaincy in the NHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Moving Chaplaincy into the community</td>
<td>Peter Gomm: Manager for Chaplaincy / Spiritual Care, Manchester Royal Infirmary</td>
<td>Understand one possible future direction of NHS Chaplaincy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am</td>
<td>Key issues in Chaplaincy Provision</td>
<td>Team work Boundaries Reflective Practice Authorisation /accreditation Chaplaincy bodies</td>
<td>Understand the key issues in chaplaincy that relate to professional and personal practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.15 pm</td>
<td>Faith / Belief in Health</td>
<td>Introduction to the principles of pastoral, spiritual and religious care</td>
<td>Understand the difference and connections between pastoral, spiritual and religious care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.15pm</td>
<td>Comfort break</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.25pm</td>
<td>Ethical Considerations in Chaplaincy Practice</td>
<td>Ethical principles Ethical dilemmas in health care What does our faith / belief say about ethics?</td>
<td>Begin to explore ethical principles in chaplaincy situations from a faith perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Preparation for placement</td>
<td>Do’s and don’ts of chaplaincy – attendance, visiting, security, dress code, self-care.</td>
<td>Feel confident in joining a team to gain experience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.30pm</td>
<td>Tea and home!</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Placement

Dates: - between February 16th – April 12th 2016

This placement will enable you to experience the work of chaplaincy as part of a chaplaincy team and explore issues of faith and belief in relation to healthcare chaplaincy.

You are expected to complete a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 20 hours spread over a period of about 8 weeks.

During this period you will explore aspects of chaplaincy practice that relate to the following:

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- Nigel Goodfellow (tel: 0191 282 1510)
- Keith Munnings (tel: 07931 532006)

You will also share your learning with the Chaplaincy team and have support from a designated Chaplain in the team.
Second taught element  
To be held at Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9WL  
Date: - Wednesday 13th April 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.35am</td>
<td>Reflective Practice</td>
<td>Learning from the placement Sharing experience and faith / belief perspectives</td>
<td>Demonstrate skills in reflection that link experience, practice and faith / belief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Coffee / tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.15am</td>
<td>Is Chaplaincy for me?</td>
<td>Personal reflection on issues raised</td>
<td>Critically appraise the Chaplain’s role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00noon</td>
<td>Authorisation and Endorsement</td>
<td>Overview of the Authorisation Process Specifics of different faith / belief communities</td>
<td>Understand the need for Authorisation / Endorsement and its process in specific faith / belief communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.45pm</td>
<td>Working as a volunteer</td>
<td>Finding a position, statutory training, working in a team</td>
<td>Understand the nature and purpose of Chaplaincy Volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.45pm</td>
<td>Finding a job</td>
<td>Accessing local, regional and national information and adverts Completing application forms Attending interviews</td>
<td>Navigate the systems to secure a position (voluntary / honorary / paid)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.45pm</td>
<td>Course Evaluation</td>
<td>Preparation for Essay</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.30pm</td>
<td>Tea and home!</td>
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</table>

**Course assessment**

a) Reflective Learning log completed during placement

b) Essay (2500 words) exploring the faith/ belief contribution to chaplaincy and healthcare. Submission date **June 10th 2016**