



Spiritual Care Services 2022 Annual Report

About Spiritual Care Services



As part of the Patient Experience Department, Spiritual Care Services provides patients, their loved ones and hospital staff with emotional, spiritual and religious support. The team is committed to providing compassionate services to people of all faith traditions, with various beliefs, and those with no religious affiliation.

In 2022, Spiritual Care Manager Tara A. Deonauth, M.Div., BCC was joined by three Chaplains to provide on-site support seven days per week (up from five days per week in 2021). The team responds to referrals and patient requests, supports family meetings and goals of care discussions and provides end-of-life and bereavement support. In addition, with COVID-19 restrictions easing, the team was able to restart the Volunteer Program.

Quick facts

24/7

support

40

volunteers



Facilitated groups for the psychiatry unit, the Addiction Recovery Program and the Partial Hospitalization Program. Increased group offerings from three to six each week.



Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers served Holy Communion to 2,000 Roman Catholic patients in 2022.



60% increase in patient visits from 2021 to 2022.

2,200

Total interactions with patients and visitors in 2022.

New in 2022

Vigil Volunteer Program

Partnered with the Palliative Care team to train staff volunteers to support patients with long, lonely hospitalizations and patients who die in the hospital without loved ones at the bedside.



Psychedelic Chaplaincy Training Program

Partnered with Harvard Divinity School (HDS) and the ketamine therapy program to train an

HDS master's student who provides one-on-one support and group facilitation to ketamine therapy patients.

Bereavement Program

Offered bereavement support to families of deceased patients and created bereavement packets to support care teams in writing condolence cards to families.

Heartbeat in a Bottle

Offered patients' final electrocardiogram trace—essentially their final heartbeat—enclosed in a bottle to bereaved families.

R&R Rounds

Partnered with Social Work and the ICU team to facilitate Restoration, Reflection or Remembrance rounds for staff in the ICU when they are faced with challenging cases.

Expanded Celebration of Holidays

Invited BWFH Community to participate in culturally appropriate celebration of holidays such as Ash Wednesday, Dia de los Muertos, Thanksgiving, Kwanzaa and Rosh Hashanah.



Code Blues

Joined the interdisciplinary team that responds to Code Blues: emergency response to critical needs.



To learn more about the Spiritual Care Services team, visit:

[BWFH.org/SpiritualCare](https://www.bwhf.org/SpiritualCare)



Want to see the Spiritual Care Services team in action? Check out our year in photos:

[BWFH.org/SCphotos2022](https://www.bwhf.org/SCphotos2022)