



Interfaith Chaplain Volunteer Program

Our volunteer chaplains provide meaningful spiritual and emotional support to patients, families, and hospital associates. This unique role combines personal ministry with real-life exposure to healthcare environments — and helps foster a comforting, inclusive space for people of all beliefs.

Program Purpose

As a Chaplain Volunteer, you'll:

- Support the hospital's mission to offer compassionate, holistic care
- Visit patients and families who request spiritual care
- Work alongside staff to provide comfort, connection, and community
- Develop confidence, communication skills, and a greater understanding of diverse faith needs

Your Role as a Chaplain Volunteer

You may be asked to:

- Greet patients and families during rounding
- Offer a supportive presence and spiritual care upon request
- Facilitate clergy visits or faith-specific rituals
- Help coordinate sacraments, prayers, or worship services
- Provide emotional support during times of crisis, including end-of-life care
- Educate staff on cultural or religious considerations
- Assist in staff debriefings or hospital emergency protocols
- Log visits, document relevant information, and communicate with the Pastoral Services team

All interactions should be patient-centered, nonjudgmental, and rooted in respect for all beliefs.

Qualifications & Expectations

To serve as a Chaplain Volunteer, you should be:

- Respectful of confidentiality and patient privacy (HIPAA compliant)
- Comfortable communicating with people of diverse backgrounds
- Able to offer support without judgment or proselytizing
- Open to feedback and comfortable working independently
- Willing to complete all orientation and training requirements

It's how we treat people.

Boundaries of the Chaplain Role

Chaplain Volunteers do not:

- Perform or assist with medical procedures
- Offer medical advice or adjust a patient's physical condition
- Read or document in patient charts
- Enter isolation rooms or participate in clinical emergencies
- Move, feed, or physically assist patients
- Handle specimens, sharps, equipment, or bodily fluids
- Handle discharge processes or valuables
- Engage in evangelizing or religious pressure of any kind

The chaplain's role is one of presence, compassion, and spiritual care — always aligned with the patient's needs and comfort level.

Application Form

Includes personal details, religious affiliation, emergency contact, availability, and education/experience.

When your application is ready, please return it to:

Nina Reed,

Patient Experience and Volunteer Specialist

P: 443-725-8837

E: nina.reed@medstar.net



MedStar Health

MedStar St. Mary's Hospital

Shadowing & Volunteer Application

Please check one: ☐ Shadowing / Observation ☐ Adult Volunteer ☐ Chaplain Volunteer

Full Name: _____

Preferred Name (if different): _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD): _____ ☐ I am 16+ ☐ I am 18+

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Emergency Contact Phone: _____

Have you volunteered or worked at MedStar Health before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, when? _____ Under what name? _____

Facility: _____

Do you have a relative currently employed at MedStar Health? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, Name & Relationship: _____

Why are you interested in this experience?

Relevant skills, training, or experience:

It's how we treat people.

Are you open to helping with special events and health fairs, etc.? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(This question applies only to adult and chaplain volunteer applicants.)

Availability (days/times): _____

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Chaplain applicants only:

Faith Affiliation: _____

Faith Leader Name & Contact Info: _____

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