



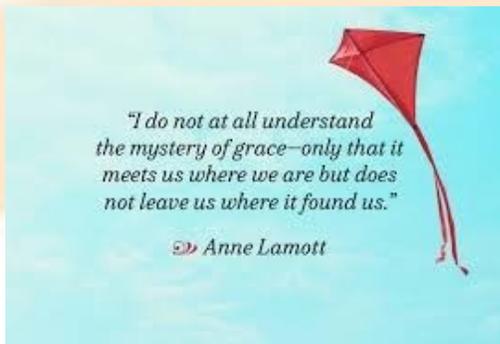
SpiritualCare

Meaning | Comfort | Strength

GREY BRUCE HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY COUNCIL



Grey Bruce Healthcare Chaplaincy Council Annual Report



2019-2020



Table of Contents

Report by Chair of GBHCC, Philip Smith	Page 3
Report by Manager of Spiritual Care, Joan Silcox-Smith	Page 4
Report by Psycho-social Spiritual Care Outreach Team Coordinator, Kathy Underwood	Page 5
Thank You to Outgoing & Incoming GBHCC Members.....	Page 6
Clinical Pastoral Education Unit 2019-2020	Page 6
Quotes from Spiritual Care Providers—GBHS, SBGHC & HDH	Page 7
Listing of Our Partners and Donating Churches (Constituents)	Page 8 & 9
Spiritual Care Statistics 2019 - 2020	Page 10
Grey Bruce Health Services On-Call Report.....	Page 11
Spiritual Care Providers/Multi-faith Panel	Page 12
GBHCC Council Members	Page 13

Meaning:

It is a privilege to come along side of some of our community's most senior people when they need care and someone to talk to

Rev. Adam Nickell

Strength:

Patient's and family's distress and recognize the spirit in each encounter!

Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski

Chair of Grey Bruce Healthcare Chaplaincy Council— Pastor Philip Smith

How do we truly thank our front-line workers (Doctors, Nurses, Support Staff, Spiritual Care Providers) who have helped us all survive the first wave of Covid 19? They have continually gone far beyond just doing a job, all the while, struggling with their own personal fears of the unknown. You are our heroes, and even though they are small words we “**thank you**” for all you have done for Grey Bruce. In the Spring we were encouraged to tie a white ribbon around a tree to symbolize our support for those on the front lines of fighting the Covid-19 pandemic. As we begin to move with a little more freedom, lest we forget, we would like to encourage you to put up the white ribbons again in front of your homes & businesses and inspire those around you to do the same.

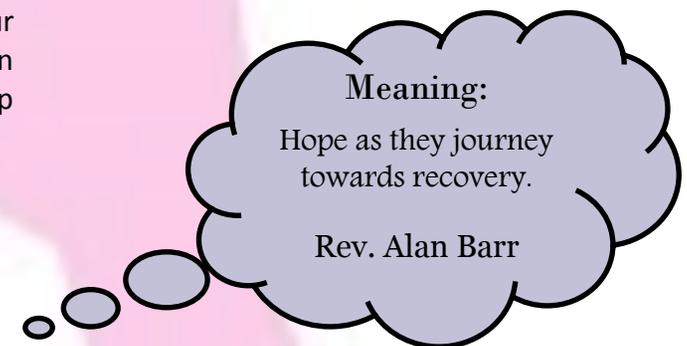
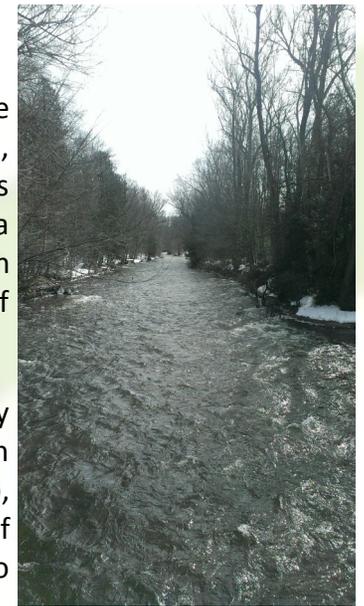
As a Spiritual Care Department, no matter the faith, at the core of all we are trying to do is to support our community by bringing meaning, comfort and strength to the difficult moments all of us face. We will see healthier people in every area of their lives – Body (Doctors, Nurses, Support Staff), Mind (Psychiatrists, Psychologists and Counsellors), and Spirit (Spiritual Care Providers, CPE students, on-call personnel, and local spiritual leaders) as this great group of individuals continues to work together to make #GREYBRUCESTRONG. We are so proud of all our 11 sites who go above and beyond every day with the care they give to the residents and guests of Grey Bruce and area.

A huge thank you for the leadership that Joan Silcox-Smith (our spiritual care manager) brings to the table, especially challenging us to continue to do better at reaching as many people possible across Grey Bruce. To Evelynne Hazen who brightens everyone’s day and keeps us all in line – thank you. To Ann Veyvara-Divinski and Jan Temple-Jones for their exceptional care – thank you. A special thank you to all the Board of the chaplaincy council for their wisdom, expertise and many hours of hard work they have put in to bring clarity and stability around the Spiritual Care we provide. And a special thanks to all of you who are reading this today, showing your heart for Spiritual care and willingness to be involved and support this great work.

Recovering from this crisis/pandemic is an opportunity to start afresh, tackling new public health risks and spiritual issues as well as rebuilding that lost sense of community. So, **Do your part:** For those of us who do not have special training to participate on the medical front lines, **we are called to responsibly play our part in society:** in our jobs that help keep our economy going; in our families as parents, children or siblings; in the way we communicate, listen and respond to the changes; in the way we care for our neighbours, city and communities. Be responsible and let go of the illusion that we can control everything in your lives, and futures, for you are not alone. Reach out, there is help especially from the ONE bigger than us all.

#WEAREBETTERTOGETHER

Pastor Philip Smith—Chair—Grey Bruce Healthcare Chaplaincy Council



Manager's Report for the 2019-2020 Annual Report for GBHCC – Rev. Joan Silcox-Smith

“This year has not turned out as expected” is a total understatement. We had change in personnel in the department and then pandemic took us all by surprise!! As someone said, “let’s just reboot 2020”!! For sure, there’s been a lot of illness, heartache, family tensions and loneliness to deal with.

But good things have happened too. During the thick of the COVID-19 outbreak, and with our Spiritual Care Providers doing their work from home, it created an opportunity for creativity and innovation. They did their best to connect to staff in order to offer support when they were nervous, tired and frightened. They made a concerted effort to contact patients and their families to offer that personal touch when no touching was allowed. They made phone calls, did virtual video chats, and one of them even went to the hospital and walked around the building waving at patients through the window.

They reminded me of the story of the starfish. Perhaps you’ve heard it too. Someone walking down the beach noticed that a large number of starfish had been swept onto shore during a storm. They were walking down and picking up each starfish and throwing it back into the ocean. A nearby observer ridiculed this person and said, “what good is that? You can’t save all these starfish. They’re doomed.” But the person replied, “no, I can’t save all of them, but it matters to the ones I can.”



Our Spiritual Care Providers made a difference to those they could reach and continue to do so every single day.

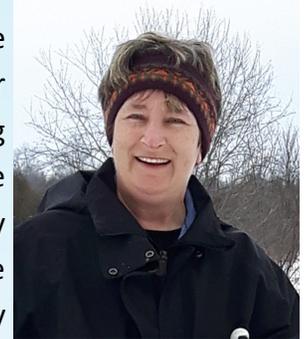
They took the opportunity to do lots and lots of webinars, until they were exhausted. Everything was to support them in the challenge of doing spiritual care when they couldn’t be in person. As the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab said, they were “forward-facing, world-embracing, and with a courageous stance.” I am so very proud of all of them.

Spiritual Care, even in a worldwide pandemic, can be offered in a genuine and authentic way. Our Spiritual Care Providers are “souls caring for other souls.” And that is what it’s all about.

Now that we are back offering bedside spiritual care again, with all the precautions needed, we are doing what we do best. We are offering “holistic, meaningful care of humans.” And we are making a world of difference in someone’s life. My hope is that the story of our individual and communal spiritual journey is one of inspiring spiritual flourishing.

Report of Psycho-social Spiritual Care Outreach Team Coordinator—Kathy Underwood

We as a small team of ‘secondary-level spiritual care providers’ have been meeting with patients who are facing palliative diagnoses and their families in their homes since June 2018. Between April 2019 and March 31, 2020, we accepted over almost 100 referrals from palliative and family physicians, complex care coordinators and primary nurse liaisons, among others. These referrals were evenly distributed across Grey Bruce. Owen Sound represented approximately 25% of the referrals. As a team, we cover the entire geography of Grey and Bruce as follows: Surya Leigh Mellor (southeast Grey including Durham), Erika Mills (north east Grey), Hanover and south Bruce (Ralph Schmidt and Lyndsay McGregor), The Lakeshore (Ann Veyvera-Divinski), The Peninsula (Sue McCullough), Owen Sound and wherever I’m needed (Kathy Underwood)



The referral pattern is up significantly in the 2020-21 fiscal year to-date as shown below.

	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
20/21	13	14	14	15								
19/20	1	4	3	6	4	5	13	9	8	6	19	9

Last year we exceeded our budget (\$35,000) by almost \$10,000 due to demand and the SW LHIN was able to find funds to meet this deficit. I am in conversation with the LHIN about the trends that are showing this year.

It is our mandate to provide a comprehensive psycho-social-spiritual care assessment, develop goals with the patient and/or family, and establish a plan that will help them to meet these goals. The goals can vary from restoring estranged relationships, finding meaning and spiritual answers to questions brought on by illness and suffering, taking on legacy activities for the ones they leave behind, helping the patient choose what they want to wear when they die, or helping people discern the values and beliefs by which they can make decisions about their care and their deaths.

The majority of people we serve do not have a connection with a faith tradition other than historically. As much as possible, we aim to reconnect them with faith communities. However, often, they choose not to reconnect in which case, if there are goals to be achieved, we find ways to visit them often enough to support them in their goals.

This important work is funded by the Southwest LHIN which holds a contract with the Chaplaincy Council. The work is overseen by the Palliative Care Outreach Team and the Chaplaincy Council. We are grateful for the partnership with the LHIN and especially with the PCOT team whose vision for comprehensive end-of-life care included psycho-social-spiritual care.

Thank you to Outgoing GBHCC Members

The GBHCC would like to thank Pastor Phil Smith, Rev. Heather McCarrel, Rev. Cathy Miller, Kim Lawson, Rev. Darlyne Rath, Michelle Moreau and Jimelda Johnston for their contributions to the ministry of caring through their daily work and commitment to the Spiritual Care goals. We are very grateful that they chose to be part of the team.

Thank You to Incoming GBHCC Members

Many thanks to Audrey King for choosing to join the GBHCC as new Council member. We value her contribution, prospective and experience she brings. We look forward to more new members joining us in the next year.



Clinical Pastoral Education Unit 2019-2020

A Supervised Pastoral Education Training Unit was lead by Certified Spiritual Educator Reverend Warren Litt, from September 2019 to April 2020. Four students participated in spiritual care in a healthcare setting. CPE is an adult learning program that combines clinical spiritual care with qualified supervision and group reflection. It involves learning the art and skills of spiritual caring, theological reflection and an understanding of the human experience. Interns assess and respond to client needs during times of crisis, celebration and life change. They reflect upon their experience as a way of exploring their attitudes, values and beliefs as they cultivate their clinical practice. This program's educational and practice hours assist with preparation for application to The College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO).



Back Row left to right: Certified Spiritual Educator Reverend Warren Litt, Rev. Barry Doner, Rev. Chuck Moon

Front Row left to right: Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski, Rev. Therese Samuel

Meaning:

To reflect with patients about who they are as beloved creations and what gives them hope and meaning in their lives!

Rev. Erika Mills

Comfort:
Quality of Life during a time of illness.

Jeff Elford

Strength:
Together we explore ways to cope through drawing on the things that nurture their own inner strength, and encouraging the patient finding meaning and comfort from those desires close to their heart!

Rev. Lyndsay McGregor

Strength:

Finding answers that patient could continue to live with once a decision was made

Rev. Jan Temple-Jones

Comfort:

Provide comfort in the fact that what may be pivotal to their recovery, is being heard and taken seriously

Rev. Alan Barr

Meaning:

Trust to share deepest needs.

Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski

Report to our Partners in 2019-2020...

- Grey Bruce Health Services
- Hanover & District Hospital
- South Bruce Grey Health Centre
- Chapman House (formerly Residential Hospice of Grey Bruce)
- Psycho-Social Spiritual Care Outreach Team



Donations:

\$30,000+

- **United Church of Canada Mission Support Grant**



\$10,000—\$29,999

- Bruce Peninsula Health Services Foundation



\$1,000 to \$9,999

- Hanover & District Hospital Foundation
- Meaford Hospital Foundation
- Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation
- Saugeen Memorial Hospital Auxiliary
- Centre Grey Hospital Foundation
- Hanover & District Hospital



...Donations from local churches with gratitude

Allenford, United Church	Hanover, St. Matthew's Lutheran	Parkhead United Church
Annan, Trinity United	Hanover, Grace United	Port Elgin, Faith Lutheran
Assembly of Bahai's, Owen Sound	Hepworth/Sauble Beach United Church	Southampton United Church
Ayton, Trinity Lutheran Evangelical	Kemble United Church	Southampton, St. Paul's Anglican
Bethel Evangelical Missionary Church. Lion's Head	Kincardine Baptist Church	Southampton, Tolmie Church
Calvary Evangelical Missionary, Owen Sound	Kincardine United Church	Southampton, St. Andrew's
Chesley, St. John's United	Kincardine, Knox Presbyterian	St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Owen Sound
Clifford, United Church	Knox Presbyterian Church, Port Elgin	St. James. Anglican Church, Fairmont
Durham, Durham Baptist Church	Owen Sound Alliance Church	St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Chesley
Elmwood, Crawford United Church	Owen Sound, St. George's Anglican Church	St. Peter's Lutheran, Desboro
Elmwood, St. John's Lutheran	Owen Sound, Canadian Reformed Church	Tara United Church
First Baptist Church, Owen Sound	Owen Sound, Community of Christ	Tiverton Baptist Church
First Christian Reformed Church, Owen Sound	Owen Sound, Georgian Shores United Church	Walkerton Baptist Church
First United Church, Owen Sound	Owen Sound, Lutheran Church of our Saviour	Walkerton, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran
Flesherton, Gentle Shepherd Community	Owen Sound, Rockcliffe Pentecostal Church	Wiarion, St. John's United
Hanover Mennonite Church	Paisley Baptist Church	Williamsford, St. James Evangelical Lutheran
Hanover Missionary Church	Paisley United Church	Zion Keppel United Church, Owen Sound
Hanover Evangelical Missionary Church	Paisley, Evangelical Missionary Immanuel	

Spiritual Care Statistics 2019-2020

	Total Number of Visits	Total Number of Referrals
GBHS Sites— 7 - Spiritual Care Providers (Grey Bruce Health Services)	4221	1371
SBGHC Sites—4 - Spiritual Care Providers (South Bruce Grey Health Centre)	2128	88
HDH—1 - Spiritual Care Providers (Hanover & District Hospital)	275	74
GB Residential Hospice—1 - Spiritual Care Providers (Chapman House)	1502	441
Volunteer Chaplains (GBHS-Owen Sound only)	409	—
GBHS-Owen Sound On-Call Referrals		47
GBHS-Owen Sound Patient Self Referrals		31
The Spiritual Care Department facilitated over 3000 in-hospital visits to Community Clergy across Grey and Bruce Counties.		

On-call Services

Emergencies and crises happen at all hours of the day and night. Many times patients and families want a Spiritual person to be with them during these stressful and anxiety filled moments. The Staff Spiritual Care Providers are available to provide this bedside care during their regular hours. They, however, can't be at the hospital 24/7. This is when we rely on the On-call chaplains.

Each hospital in Grey and Bruce is serviced in a different way. For many of the smaller hospitals, the Staff Spiritual Care Provider is called back in as needed for these kinds of situations. Sometimes the community clergy provide back-up to them when they aren't available.

In the case of the Owen Sound hospital, and Chapman House Hospice, the Staff Spiritual Care Providers and the Community Clergy together cover all possibilities through a detailed schedule that our Administrative Assistant, Evelynne, maintains.

We are grateful to all the community clergy across the area who offer their compassionate hearts and care to those in times of need. If you are a community clergy and reading this, don't hesitate to offer your care to the community in this manner. All you have to do is contact your local Spiritual Care Provider or Evelynne in our office to inquire as to how you might help. 519-376-2121 ext. 2889.

There is no reason for someone to be fearful, alone, grieving and anxious. If they would like spiritual support at any time, they only need to ask. We are here to serve.

Strength:

This has been a year of two halves when meaning began with words and moved to a wave through a window. A year when comfort began in community and moved to the phone. A year when strength began with a physical presence and moved to the invisible.

Rev. David Gebbie

Comfort:

It is clear during this time that people are hungry for human contact and connection!

Rev. Chuck Moon

Comfort:

To find an answer that he could live with once the decision was made!

Rev. Jan Temple-Jones

GBHCC SPIRITUAL CARE PROVIDERS



Rev. Alan Barr
Lion's Head



Rev. Ken Craig
Kincardine



Jeff Elford
Durham



Rev. Doug Gebbie
Chesley & Walkerton



Rev. Lyndsay McGregor
Hanover



Rev. Erika Mills
Meaford



Rev. Chuck Moon
Southampton



Rev. Adam Nickell
Markdale



Deacon Phil Dwyer
Warton



Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski
Owen Sound



Rev. Jan Temple-Jones
Owen Sound
(June 2020)



Spiritual & Religious Care Awareness Week
Multifaith Panel

(left to right) Joan Silcox-Smith (GBHS Spiritual Care Department—Manager), Imam Hafeez Motorwola (Muslim Community Leader), Conrad Ritchie (Band Councillor, Saugeen First Nation), Chandra Tripathi (Hindu Faith), Father Wojciech Kuzma (St. Mary's of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church), Rev. Carrie Irwin (St. Paul's Anglican Church, Southampton)

Comfort:
Handshake and a smile!
Pastor Kenneth Craig

Strength:
Patient's and family's distress and recognize the spirit in each encounter!
Rev. Ann Veyvara-Divinski

Grey Bruce Healthcare Chaplaincy Council Members 2019-2020:



Pastor Philip Smith, Chair



Mary Margaret Crapper



Erin Zorzi



Michelle Moreau



Rev. Cathy Miller



Dianne Jackson



Kim Lawson



Rev. Joan Silcox-Smith



Rev. Heather McCarrel



Ziyaad Khan



Rev. Darlyne Rath



Jimelda Johnston



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GREY BRUCE HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY COUNCIL

Grey Bruce Healthcare Chaplaincy Council
c/o Spiritual Care Department
Grey Bruce Health Services
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