



VA Connecticut Healthcare System West Haven Campus

Clinical Pastoral Education Program

The VA CPE program provides an exciting and diverse setting that allows seminarians, divinity school students, and community religious leaders to learn about the practice and theory of spiritual care in the dynamic setting of caring for veterans. The hospital is a 216 bed medical center with diverse medical settings such as a hospice unit and a psychiatric emergency room.

The CPE program conducts two units per year:

The extended unit of CPE is a four month program that typically meets from January through May. Students who take this type of unit are able to set aside 24 hours a week of educational time and clinical time. Students participate in oncall coverage from home by carrying a pager. Required written reports include but are not limited to, biweekly reflections, verbatim reports, and mid-unit and final evaluations. The curriculum for a group of first unit students will focus on the development of pastoral authority and identity through learning skills of establishing pastoral presence and dialogue. The unit is offered each year from winter to spring.

The summer unit of CPE is an 11 week program that typically runs from the end of May through the beginning of August. The unit is full-time program, Monday through Friday and includes participation in oncall coverage. Students participate in oncall coverage from home by carrying a pager. Required written reports include but are not limited to, weekly reflections, verbatim reports, and mid-unit and final evaluations. The curriculum for a group of first unit students will focus on the development of pastoral authority and identity through learning skills of establishing pastoral presence and dialogue. Summer units are offered every year.

The VA Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven Campus is accredited to conduct Level 1 & Level 2 programs of CPE through the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., We Work Floor 4, 120 West Trinity Place, Decatur, GA 30030, Telephone 404-320-1472, www.acpe.edu.

2024 Extended Unit: January 8 – May 10

2024 Summer Unit: May 27 – August 9

Tuition: \$0

For more information and documents to apply:

<https://www.va.gov/connecticut-health-care/work-with-us/internships-and-fellowships/>

The Rev. James (Jay) Cooke, S.T.M., BCC
ACPE Certified Educator & Chaplain
VACT Chaplain Service
950 Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516
203 932 5711 x2422
James.Cooke2@va.gov