

**ONLINE HELP NOW AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE IN DISTRESS FROM ILLNESS,
TRAUMA, GRIEF**

HealthCare Chaplaincy Network Launches ChaplainsOnHand.org and ChatWithAChaplain

NEW YORK, N.Y. (April 3, 2014)—A new website for online health care chaplain services launched today at the annual HealthCare Chaplaincy Network conference in New York. The new resources of *ChaplainsOnHand.org* provide counseling to anyone seeking help – regardless of religion or beliefs. This is the first service of its kind specifically geared to health care.

The site includes the *ChatWithAChaplain* feature where people can connect by email or phone with a professional health care chaplain who will listen and offer spiritual comfort and support. While hospitals and other institutions have professional chaplains on staff who are trained to help those in spiritual distress, countless others in the community need help. Until now, they have had not had easy access to professional health care chaplains.

"Serious illness, trauma, or grief can create the distress that arises when one struggles with thoughts such as 'Why is this happening to me?' 'What do I have to live for?' 'Has God abandoned me?' 'What should I do now?'" said the Rev. Eric J. Hall, HealthCare Chaplaincy Network president and CEO. "We want to help everyone in spiritual distress, whatever they believe and wherever they are."

Professional health care chaplains created the content for *ChaplainsOnHand* to respond to the big issues people in spiritual distress face due to illness and grief. The counseling, information and resources provided come from first-hand chaplain experience and can significantly help in the healing process.

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About Health Care Chaplaincy Network

[HealthCare Chaplaincy Network](http://www.healthcarechaplaincy.org) is a national health care organization dedicated to helping people faced with the distress of illness and suffering find comfort and meaning.

www.healthcarechaplaincy.org www.chaplainsonhand.org

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