

HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY INSTALLS RABBI MAURICE APPELBAUM IN MINISTRY OF CHAPLAINCY CARE

NEW YORK, N.Y. (May 14, 2015)—HealthCare Chaplaincy Network (HCCN) installed Rabbi Maurice Appelbaum, of Greenpoint, N.Y., in the ministry of chaplaincy care at the nonprofit organization’s Annual Convocation on May 12 at Temple Emanu-El in New York. The yearly event includes both a commissioning of new chaplains and a renewal of commitment to spiritual care by other professional chaplains.

At the Ceremony of Commissioning, HCCN charged Appelbaum in part to perform “with skill and wisdom, always tempered by compassion.”

Appelbaum works for HCCN as coordinator for chaplaincy and education, and as a chaplaincy educator at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Earlier this month, he was granted board certification under the National Association of Jewish Chaplains, and credentialed as an associate supervisor of clinical pastoral education by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

“It is humbling to have reached this milestone,” said Appelbaum. “I find strength from working with those suffering and teaching students how to sit with the pain of others. I hope to play a small role in helping people find their own sources of strength and receive their own Torah as a source of meaning and comfort in their journey.”

Appelbaum also serves as the rabbi of Congregation Ahavas Israel Greenpoint, a post he has held since 2009 after being ordained by Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School in Riverdale. Michelle Friedman, M.D., chair of the school’s department of pastoral counseling, joined Appelbaum on stage during the ceremony.

At the heart of the Annual Convocation, HCCN led professional chaplains of various faiths in a communal prayer of recommitment to their service, which includes a pledge to “respect the religious and spiritual traditions of my patients, colleagues, as well as my own,” and “practice the art and science of spiritual care in an honorable and ethical manner.”

“We are witnessing a time of transformation in spiritual care in health care. The invaluable contribution of spiritual care to overall wellness is gaining recognition, both in research and in practice,” said Rev. Eric J. Hall, HCCN’s president and CEO. “Every day, around the world, chaplains of all faiths are nobly making their mark, by listening and walking with people on their personal journeys to overcome spiritual distress.”

About HealthCare Chaplaincy Network™

HealthCare Chaplaincy Network™ is a national health care nonprofit organization that offers spiritual-

related information and resources, and professional chaplaincy services in hospitals, other health care settings, and online. Its mission is to advance the integration of spiritual care in health care through clinical practice, research and education in order to increase patient satisfaction and help people faced with illness and grief find comfort and meaning—whoever they are, whatever they believe, wherever they are. For more information, visit www.healthcarechaplaincy.org, call 212-644-1111, and connect with us on [twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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