Spiritual Care Initiative for Professional Excellence (SCIPE)

e-News

(Formerly the Ideal Intervention Project e-Newsletter)

Volume 6, Number 4  Fall 2013  John J. (Jack) Gleason, Editor

Spiritual Care Knowledge Base To Become Available in Book Form

The Spiritual Care Knowledge Base has been removed from the ACPE Research Network website. But not to worry! Within a few months Judson Press will release this material in book form in order to give the collection a wider audience with clergy, seminary professors, lay visitors, CPE supervisors, students, administrators, and researchers for the purposes of getting second opinions on difficult situations, for educating seminarians, CPE students, laity, the public, and appropriate administrators, for self-supervision, and for repetition studies toward determining evidence based best practices. The working title is Pastoral Care Helps: The Ultimate Resource, to be published in four volumes. In the meantime, you are invited to go to http://www.acperesearch.net/scipe.html for SCIPE details. At this important juncture your Editor and SCIPE Coordinator Jack Gleason extends his heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to those who have made significant contributions to the Knowledge Base in particular and to the Ideal Intervention Project/SCIPE in general, including: the visionary initiator of the project and its first Knowledge Base editor, Henry Heffernan; the online Knowledge Base host, ACPE Research Network coordinator John Ehman; workshop leaders Ralph Ciampa, Yoke Lye Lim Kwong, Paul Steinke, and James Travis; CPE Supervisors Connie Bonner and Yoke Lye Lim Kwong, who consistently required paper submissions; and, perhaps most importantly, the several hundred writers—CPE students and pastoral/spiritual care practitioners and educators—whose papers were submitted for editing into the Spiritual Care Knowledge Base, who approved the edits, and who then agreed to remain anonymous.

A Look Back

On November 26, 2008 the first issue of the Ideal Intervention Project e-Newsletter was sent to approximately 100 practitioners, administrators and educators in the professional spiritual care movement “because of your commitment to improving the quality of spiritual care and education”. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) students had been submitting “ideal intervention” papers that consolidated their learnings from verbatim presentations to Fr. Henry Heffernan, SJ for editing into a potential online knowledge base. Approximately one year later that knowledge base was active and freely accessible online, thanks to the good graces of ACPE Research Network coordinator John Ehman. The new knowledge base was quickly seen as potentially valuable well beyond expediting the use of written material in book form in order to give the collection a wider audience with clergy, seminary professors, lay visitors, CPE supervisors, students, administrators, and researchers for the purposes of getting second opinions on difficult situations, for educating seminarians, CPE students, laity, the public, and appropriate administrators, for self-supervision, and for repetition studies toward determining evidence based best practices. The working title is Pastoral Care Helps: The Ultimate Resource, to be published in four volumes. In the meantime, you are invited to go to http://www.acperesearch.net/scipe.html for SCIPE details. At this important juncture your Editor and SCIPE Coordinator Jack Gleason extends his heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to those who have made significant contributions to the Knowledge Base in particular and to the Ideal Intervention Project/SCIPE in general, including: the visionary initiator of the project and its first Knowledge Base editor, Henry Heffernan; the online Knowledge Base host, ACPE Research Network coordinator John Ehman; workshop leaders Ralph Ciampa, Yoke Lye Lim Kwong, Paul Steinke, and James Travis; CPE Supervisors Connie Bonner and Yoke Lye Lim Kwong, who consistently required paper submissions; and, perhaps most importantly, the several hundred writers—CPE students and pastoral/spiritual care practitioners and educators—whose papers were submitted for editing into the Spiritual Care Knowledge Base, who approved the edits, and who then agreed to remain anonymous.

Accomplishments

- A professional spiritual care knowledge base capped at 395 entries, approximately 40% of which were provided by experienced practitioners and educators via workshops offered at national, regional and local gatherings of spiritual care professionals;
- A tentative effectiveness rating for each of the 395 samples;
- A 12-item spiritual care effectiveness survey to be completed by the recipient of that care shortly after the intervention (a revision of the survey thoroughly researched and developed by Scottish chaplains);
- A SCIPE e-News mailing list that gradually grew from 100 to 450, enabling ever-wider visibility for the project throughout the professional spiritual care movement;
- A name change more fully describing the project’s evolved dual core purposes, namely, the achievement of professional spiritual care excellence and the attainment of a strong position for professional spiritual care in the emerging pay-for-performance (P4P) culture.

Publications

- “Something New Under the CPE Sun?” (Letters to the Editor), ACPE News, September 2008;
- “Ideal Intervention Project Report,” East Central Region ACPE Newsletter, December 2008;
• “Building a Resource for Evidence-Based Best Practices in Chaplaincy Care,” APC e-News. 13:5, August, 2011;
• “Can Chaplains Survive and Thrive with P4P?” Chaplaincy Today, 28:2, Autumn/Winter 2012. 13-19;
• “A Professional Spiritual Care Knowledge Base: Boon or Bane?” Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy, 19:45-53, 2013;
• 29 issues of the Ideal Intervention Project e-Newsletter and the SCIPE e-News.

Workshops & Presentations
6-4-09 Lifecourse Perspectives on Spirituality & Health: The Society for Spirituality Theology & Health Second Annual Conference, Durham, North Carolina. “An Outlandish Idea Pursued: Evidence Based Spiritual Care Best Practices II.”
9-1-09 Round Table Club: American Baptist clergy bi-monthly seminar, Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana. “Ideal Intervention Project.”
6-8-10 Chaplains/Pastoral Care Sharing Group: VHA Central Region quarterly meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana. “Evidence Based Spiritual Care: The Ideal Intervention Project.”
3-24-11 Chaplaincy Deep in the Heart of Texas: Association of Professional Chaplains Annual Conference, Dallas, Texas. “Sharing Spiritual Care Knowledge for the Good of All.”
9-20-11 ABC Indiana & Greater Indianapolis Ministers Council Retreat, Franklin College, “Improving Your Pastoral Care—Painlessly.”
7-17-12 Chaplain Training Retreat: Indiana Department of Correction Correctional Training Institute, New Castle, Indiana. “A Case Self-Supervision Model.”

Awaiting Action
As noted in the Spring issue of the e-News, in the near future almost all US Health Care professionals—doctors, nurses and members of the ancillary disciplines, including chaplains—will likely be paid on the basis of the quality of their performance—Pay for Performance (P4P)—by achieving evidence based best practice desired outcomes that impact institutional bottom lines positively. Assembling baseline data for professional spiritual care effectiveness research—to include replication of effective interventions—will be essential to this process. The new book format, Pastoral Care Helps: The Ultimate Resource, Volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4, can have a vital role in this regard.

Correction
Vol. 6, No. 3 of the SCIPE e-News contained incorrect information regarding Community Health Network, Indianapolis, IN. Please disregard that report.