

October 24, 2023

Clinical-Pastoral Education/Training Report to the Annual Meeting of Convention

The Episcopal Church in Western Oregon partners with Legacy Health in continuing to offer and develop CPE training that emphasizes breaking down barriers to clinical training due to time availability, geographic location, finances, and obstacles presented by bias and prejudice.

This past year six trainees completed the extended CPE/T unit offered from fall 2022-Spring 2023. Two of the six completed the unit fulfilling requirements for ordination, one was hired as an Associate Chaplain at Legacy, Three of the number planned to go on for further training, two of these in our program. Two carried out training in order to develop and deepen skills to apply to their present vocational settings.

This year we again have six trainees, and have as well a Supervisor-In-Training who hopes to complete requirements for certification as a Diplomate Supervisor with the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP). It is our hope and intention to build sustainability into the program through training new supervisors.

An accomplishment worth celebration was completion of the two-year Accreditation process of the program. Following a daylong virtual site visit, the Accreditation Committee of CPSP awarded full Accreditation to us, affirming the quality of trainee experience as well as the structure built to sustain the program. This success is the result of the work and support of many.

Goals for this year are to plan for a "Beta-test" of training programs for community chaplains and parish chaplains to be trialed in 2024-2025, one to be offered in Spanish and the other in English. Community partnerships are being sought who can name appropriate candidates to whom they can offer support in seeking meaningful ministry in their settings. Already one of the trainees in the present cohort is participating in order to explore a vocation to Parish Chaplaincy in their setting.

Please direct any inquiries or interest to the Reverend Kurt Neilson, Diplomate Supervisor of the program, at torabb2007@gmail.com