

WILBERT FOUNDATION PEDIATRIC CHAPLAINS INSTITUTE

The Wilbert Foundation Pediatric Chaplains Institute desires to enhance the spiritual care of children and families in health care by offering continuing education to improve the quality of professional development in pediatric chaplaincy.

In Partnership with:



The Wilbert Foundation Pediatric Chaplains Institute Training:

PCI training is a program that includes information essential for spiritual caregivers working with children and their families in pediatric health care settings. The training sessions are primarily interactive and multi-focal: presentation, small group, individual. Creative use of audio/visual materials emphasizes the learning objectives. Objectives center around not only developing knowledge and skill, but competency in application. Students are encouraged to share/teach from their experiences.

The PCI curriculum is delivered through (6) weeks of synchronous and asynchronous eLearning and a capstone in-person intensive week on-site. Curriculum topics include deep exploration of:

- *Learning to Identify Spiritual Needs and Spiritual Distress*
- *Developing an Understanding of, and Skills Related to Spiritual/Religious Assessment,*
- *Age Specific Competencies: Physical, Emotional, Spiritual Development and Related Spiritual Needs/Assessment. (Infancy, Toddlers, School-Age, Adolescence),*
- *Medical Ethics,*
- *Adverse Childhood Experiences & Trauma Informed Care*
- *Death/Dying/Grief*
- *Professional Boundaries, Staff Care and Self-Care,*
- *Practical Application Through Simulations with Professional Actors.*

You are welcomed to apply:

- When you are currently employed as a chaplain in a pediatric health care setting;
- When you have earned a Bachelor's degree or higher;
- When you have had one year of clinical experience (either CPE or on-the-job)
- When you are willing and able to commit to the full process of training
 - (Six (6) Weeks eLearning + One (1) Week In-person, On Site)

Participants are required to do the preliminary on-line modules and attend all sessions. A Certificate of Completion will be presented when all course requirements have been fulfilled. Please note: this is not a certification program.

Faculty for the 2026 Institute:

Patrick Jinks, Prisma Health, Greenville, SC
Mark Bartel, Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, Orlando, FL
Eliza Leatherberry, Advocate Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn, IL
Jamez Terry, Providence Health, Anchorage, Ak
James Denham, MD Anderson Cancer Centers, Houston, TX

About the Wilbert Foundation Pediatric Chaplains Institute

The Pediatric Chaplains Institute (PCI) offered its first week-long intensive training in 2007. Since then, 220+ chaplains from more than 70 institutions, 31 states, the District of Columbia, and 1 Canadian province, Brazil, Colombia, and Germany have attended the PCI!

Originally hosted by Arkansas Children's Hospital, the training moved to Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC beginning with the 2014 session, and to Birmingham, AL in 2018.

Prior to 2007, members of the PCN began a relationship with the Wilbert Foundation which included sponsorship of the curriculum development team and support of this exciting new endeavor. Wilbert recognized that chaplaincy in the pediatric realm is complex, and wanted to participate in the work of preparing new chaplains in pediatric settings. Their generous donations over the years continue to provide both development opportunities and scholarships for attendees. This partnership was formalized with a 10 year sponsorship agreement in 2026.

The Pediatric Chaplains Network has consistently supported and encouraged the work of the PCI as the educational arm of the organization's mission. In partnership, PCN and PCI are wholly committed to providing excellent education and mentoring to all pediatric chaplains.