

Wesley Theological Seminary's  
Heal the Sick program presents an

# Online Health Minister Certificate

An introductory education in whole  
person health



## The Online Health Minister Certificate:

- Equips people from diverse faiths and professional backgrounds with practical knowledge and skills, such as active listening, theological reflection, critical thinking, individual and community asset mapping, and more.
- Provides foundational language and concepts for faith community members, clergy, public health professionals, and chaplains to develop and support faith and health efforts.
- Explores different health ministry roles and models.
- Explores how to measure, communicate, and report about your faith and health efforts with a variety of audiences based on national best practice models and standards outlined in the Health Ministries Association's "The Health Minister Role: Guidelines and Foundational Curriculum Elements".

WHEN: Weekly modules - Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> – Apr.17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## LEARNING FORMAT:

10 Weekly Self-Paced Online Learning Modules

- 22 contact hours for entire certificate
- Each module is 1 ½ hours - 2 ½ hours
- All 10 online modules must be completed for certificate completion
- Supportive Webinars offered for enhanced, integrated learning

## PILOT PROGRAM TUITION COST:

**\$200 per person (maximum of 25 people)**

**\$25 Non-refundable registration fee**

With the pilot program tuition rate, you agree to provide feedback on the online certificate. The certificate has evaluation measures to ensure qualitative standards. Following the pilot program, the cost for subsequent online certificate courses will be \$450 per person.

**Note:** Certificate credits are not transferable to any Wesley Seminary graduate degree.

**REGISTER  
BY  
JAN. 2, 2017**

For more information, visit [www.wesleyhts.org](http://www.wesleyhts.org)  
Email: [theinstitute@wesleyseminary.edu](mailto:theinstitute@wesleyseminary.edu)  
Call: (202) 706-6838



# **Brief Overview of Health Minister Online Modules**

## **Introduction to Faith and Health**

Participants in this introduction module will develop a common language, concept, and understanding of faith and health. Participants will explore assumptions of health and wellness, definitions of individual and community health, and defining foundational tenets of health ministry. A brief history of health ministry will be covered.

## **Nutrition and Wellness: Becoming the Best Version of You**

The purpose of this module is to give participants a practical and concise introduction to nutrition and wellness and to demonstrate how keeping the body healthy is a part of being faithful to God. A self-assessment tool will help participants increase their awareness and understanding in how to care for themselves.

## **Understanding Chronic Diseases & Its Relationship with Whole Person Health**

In this module, participants will learn about leading chronic diseases and their risk factors. The goal of this module is to educate participants on the leading chronic diseases and their risk factors so that participant can improve his/her own health, as well as the health of others, and more effectively direct individuals to appropriate services based on their symptoms and risk factors.

## **Health Ministry Models – Models of Practice, Support, & Networking**

This module will help participants to examine various health ministry models through a multitude of lenses from faith communities and community and hospital based networks. Common health ministry models will be explored, such as faith community nursing, health ministers, and congregational health and wellness committees. Essential tools in building a health ministry will be discussed. Participants will explore health ministry tools that help congregations improve coordination and communication between different ministry models.

## **The Affordable Care Act & Health Policy: Navigating the New Healthcare System**

This module will provide a brief overview of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and its impact on various groups, such as primary care providers, hospitals and faith communities. Participants will engage in an interactive discussion on how congregations, faith leaders, health ministers, and faith community nurses will play critical roles in educating congregants and the community about how to access the right health care at the right time and the right place. Participants will learn about ACA mandates for nonprofit hospitals and how this may impact their work with communities, especially faith communities.

## **Mental Health: Raising Understanding & Decreasing Stigma for You and Your Faith Community**

This module will explore the role of the faith community in raising awareness and attention to the important topic of mental health. Participants will discuss mental illness and how it impacts the life of a faith community as a healing place. We will explore how faith communities and faith leaders can approach this topic and what resources and supports they may offer their congregants. Mental Health First Aid training (youth and adult) will be discussed.

## **Advance Care Issues: End of Life & Palliative Care**

Participants will discuss advance care issues and end of life terms and resources, such as hospice, advance directives, and living wills. Also participants will discuss how their faith community can take approaches regarding this topic to provide resources and supports for their congregants.

## **Communicating and Organizing for Health Ministry**

This module will introduce how to develop critical thinking, participatory learning, and community organizing strategies and styles for whole person health. This module will explore also what active listening is and how active listening truly assists a person in the helping relationship. Active listening techniques and roadblocks to communication will help participants understand the dynamics of healthy interpersonal communication. Participants will have an opportunity to view and comment on sample role plays that use various listening techniques.

## **Theological Reflection for Health Ministry**

This module will help participants reflect upon their life and ministerial experience. Participants will learn about different spiritual practices including practicing mindfulness and theological reflection. Participants will explore how their pastoral, professional, and personal experiences in health ministry relate to God, others, and their individual spiritual formation. Engaging in regular spiritual self-care is emphasized in this module.

## **Accountability, Professional Responsibility, and Legal Considerations**

This module will explore how a health minister's decisions and actions reflect and are guided by client, personal, and professional ethical considerations. Ethical concerns in health ministry include the principles of client autonomy, the right of self-determination in health care decisions, confidentiality, beneficence/non-maleficence, the obligation to do good and not to do harm, & the distribution of limited resources. In addition, health ministers ought to consider the virtue ethics, such as caring, forgiveness, and compassion, in their decision making. Case studies will help participants understand liability and accountability issues in various contexts and settings.