



Quarterly News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 6

Fall 2009

Mission Statement:

To improve end-of-life care for people of all cultures and communities in the Tarrant Area.

Board Members:

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Administrative Mgr



*Fr. Carl Szura, T.O.R
1944 – 2009*

Fr Carl was instrumental in developing Tarrant Area Partnership for End-of-Life Care (TAPEC) which later became the Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care (CQEC). He was a vital force in the planning and developing of programs for our non-profit organization and for keeping us in focus and on a path that met our mission, "To improve end-of-life care for people of all cultures and communities in the Tarrant area." Fr Carl began his relationship with TAPEC/CQEC through our initial event in early 2000, "The Texas Clergy Project", which he attended. Through this and other programs that he attended, he became active in our organization and was one of the first members of our board. He was instrumental in developing and planning several programs for TAPEC/CQEC, including the Caregiver's Haven project and most recently the 1st Annual Grief Symposium, "Perspectives on Grieving." He was also in the process of developing our Website and developing our board manual to help new board members in their orientation to our program. He was certified as a Facilitator in the Respecting Choices program which the Texas Partnership for End-of-Life Care (TxPEEC) brought into this area a couple of years ago to help promote advance healthcare planning within our community.

Fr Carl was ordained a priest on May 15, 1971 and served as associate pastor at St. Andrew Catholic Church since 2000. He initially became active in hospice because of the deaths of his parents in the 1980's which led him to become a volunteer chaplain at a hospice within the Pittsburg Medical Center. This service helped him to learn how to be a better minister to those facing critical or life-threatening illness. From that time onward he has been involved in end-of-life care issues. His own experiences with multiple sclerosis for over 20 years and as a survivor of prostate cancer also influenced him in this ministry. Fr Carl became president for CQEC in October 2008 and served as our VP the year before. Little did he know that his planning for the October 23rd program, "Perspectives on Grief" would be helpful in our loss of him. He attended his last planning committee for this program in late July and was soon after diagnosed with a very aggressive form of acute leukemia which took him from us within the next couple of weeks.

The above picture brings us great sorrow as we know he will no longer be with us physically at our meetings and events. We will know he will be spiritually present with us and his guidance will be part of our on-going development in our present and future programs and projects.

Fr Carl, you will be missed but not forgotten!!! Your name will be a vital part of CQEC's quest to reach out to our community as we address the many end-of-life issues that face us!

--Doug Pierce

CQEC

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Upcoming Events in 2010 ~ Mark Your Calendar

2010 National Bereavement Teleconference – *Living with Grief: Cancer and End-of-Life Care*

Hospice Foundation of America is pleased to announce that our 17th Annual National Bereavement Teleconference, *Living With Grief: Cancer and End-of-Life Care*, will be broadcast live-via-webcast and satellite on Wednesday, March 24, 2010.

The 2010 teleconference will address care options related to cancer diagnoses as well as loss and grief reactions for patients, families and professional caregivers. The teleconference will also examine psychosocial aspects of cancer, pain management, and ethical issues related to the disease.

Location: American Cancer Society
3301 West Freeway, Fort Worth 76107

Time: 11:30am to 4:00pm

Host for Tarrant County: The Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care (CQEC)

Cancer and End-of-Life Care will feature panelists Yvette Colón, PhD, MSW, Director of Education & Support at American Pain Foundation; Malene Davis, MBA, CHPN, President & CEO at Capital Hospice; Kenneth J. Doka, PhD, MDiv, Professor of Gerontology at The College of New Rochelle and Senior Consultant to HFA; Richard Payne, MD, Director of the Duke Institute on Care at the End of Life; Sherry R Schachter, PhD, FT, Director Bereavement Services at Calvary Hospital/Hospice; and Brad Stuart, MD, Medical Director at Sutter VNA & Hospice.

Tax Deductible Contributions to
Coalition for Quality End of Life Care may be sent to:
P.O. Box 164052, Fort Worth, TX 76161-4052