

*Congregations are in a pivotal position in an emerging faith and health movement to reshape public awareness of health as something more than the absence of disease. Medical scientists are committed to the cure of disease, but they cannot produce magic bullets for lifestyle diseases as they did for infectious diseases. The “something more” beyond the eradication of disease has to do with healthy attitudes and behavior, healthy communities, spiritual values, a purpose for living, and social justice for the poor and under-served. Who is better situated to promote this “something more” than congregations?*

*Thomas A. Droege, Former Director,  
Interfaith Health Program,  
Emory University*

**Agents of Healing:**  
*Developing a Health Ministry in Your Congregation* is sponsored by The Center for Faith and Community Health Transformation, a joint project of Advocate Health Care and the Healthy Cities Collaborative of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

For more information about The Center or this training, contact our Co-Directors:

Rev. Kirsten Peachey  
Director, Congregational Health Partnerships  
Advocate Health Care  
205 Touhy Ave., Suite 127  
Park Ridge, IL 60068  
(847) 384-3552  
kirsten.peachey@advocatehealth.com

Charles Williams,  
Director, Faith and Governmental Partnerships  
UIC Healthy City Collaborative  
1747 W Roosevelt Rd., Suite 583  
Chicago, IL 60608  
(312) 996-5661  
cwilli54@uic.edu

## **Agents of Healing: Developing a Health Ministry in Your Congregation**

*This space will be customized with the name and address of your congregation or organization and the address where the workshop will be held.*

 **Advocate Health Care**  
Inspiring medicine. Changing lives.



*The*  
**Center**  
for **Faith** and  
Community Health  
Transformation

## Congregations: Agents of Healing

Faith communities have been places of healing and wholeness throughout the centuries. Our traditions teach us that we are whole people and that it is important to take care of all of our parts--bodies, minds, emotions, spirits, and relationships. Congregations offer community and care, engage our spirits and lead us to reach beyond ourselves to help others--things that we all need to be well.

This workshop helps participants connect with what their congregations are already doing to promote health and begin to build the structures for doing those things more intentionally.



### Training Schedule

The training is 10 hours, including a two hour follow-up session. All sessions will be held at:

*Enter your congregation's information here...*

### Who Should Attend?

We recommend that each congregation send a team of about 3 people to the training, but individuals are welcome to attend. Participants may include representatives from the congregation's leadership council or relevant committees, health practitioners, people interested in health and healing, religious education directors, lay visitors, youth leaders, and pastors/rabbis/priests/imams.

### Registration

To register, contact Olga at Advocate Health Care, Congregational Health Partnerships: 847-384-3513 or email her at [olga.wegehaupt@advocatehealth.com](mailto:olga.wegehaupt@advocatehealth.com)

Cost for the training is \$20.00 per person, payable at the first session. Checks should be made payable to Advocate Health Care. The fee covers materials, continental breakfast and lunch.

## Training Overview

### Introduction to Health Ministry

What is health? What is the unique role that communities of faith play in addressing health and wholeness?

### Grounding Health Ministry in Faith

This session reviews the ways in which faith traditions and holy scriptures support the role of faith in healing.

### Approaches to Health Ministry

Many models for congregational health programs exist. Participants will be encouraged to think about these models in light of their congregation's character, resources and needs.

### Assessing and Planning

Thorough assessment of the resources and needs in the congregation and community is vital to a sustainable program. We will look at ways to gather and use this information.

### Putting it all Together

Participants work in their congregational groups to establish next steps and develop a program development strategy.

### Follow Up

A follow-up session provides an opportunity to check in, share progress, raise questions, receive resources, network and continue planning.