

**FIELD EDUCATION**  
**The Log**  
 Lynn Williams-Martin



**Week # 14**

**Hours This Week: 8 Total Hours:112/ 120**

<b>HOURS SPENT / TASKS &amp; ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>REFLECTIONS    JOURNALING    THOUGHTS    PROCESSING</b>
<p>4 hours spent visiting patients praying and ministering            1 hour in family meeting            2 hours visiting patients            1 hour writing report on patients</p>	<p>Another day for me to have the opportunity to encourage the patients. As I go from room to room, I find myself being more baffled every day. I am now seeing how many people are hurting mentally and do not know how to change their situation. I am confused, people are declaring that they are Christians but they do not know God. My challenge is ministering to the patients that are saying I have no spiritual practices, but I believe in a higher power. Some say to me that they do not believe in God or the bible. This is something I expected, but not on such a vast scale. I depend on the Holy Spirit to guide me on what to say when I go to the bedside of the patients. I see the other chaplains going to the patients and just listening to them, but I feel compel not only to listen but to do something. I feel so helpless sometimes, when I realize that there is not much that I can do but to pray for them. I am enjoying the experience of interacting with people of different culture and religious belief. This has broadened my understanding of people's worldview of Christianity. Day by day I continue to see the need for evangelism in the hospital. I see the patients as the harvest waiting for the laborers. I spoke to a patient that told me she lives in Manhattan. She is a paraplegic and has a motorized wheelchair. She expresses the desire to go to church, but cannot find a Catholic church in Manhattan that has wheelchair access to get into the building. I was shocked I did not think that such a problem existed. Thinking about it more intensely, I realized that the Catholic Cathedrals are old buildings that were not renovated to accommodate wheelchairs. I said to myself this is an issue that the Diocese should made be aware of.</p> <p>The family meetings are getting better for me. I am less emotional while I empathize with the family. I now understand why family meetings are so important for patients that are dying. It prepares the family even though it may be hard for them at that time. It also shows them that they have the support of the palliative care team. This is why the chaplain is needed as part of the team. I thank God that he has chosen me for this time.</p>

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**MEETING(S) WITH MENTOR(S) || TOPICS OF DISCUSSION || REFLECTIONS**

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