

FIELD EDUCATION
The Log
 Lynn Williams-Martin



Week # 15

Hours This Week: 8 Total Hours: 120/ 120

HOURS SPENT / TASKS & ACTIVITIES	REFLECTIONS JOURNALING THOUGHTS PROCESSING
<p>4 hours spent visiting patients 2 hours spent in family meeting 2 hours spent with mentor</p>	<p>Today two chaplains are on vacation so my list of seeing patient is a little longer than usual. I am getting more confident talking to the patients. As I go from room to room every experience is different. I am overcoming my emotional battle, when I see the patient in pain or is very sick. I noticed that when I ask some of the patients if they would like me to pray for them, they are refusing. They just want you to be there to listen to them. The patients are physically sick but I am finding out the they have a lot of psychological problems that may or may not be contributing to their illness. Some of the patients that I visit are very lonely, and they just want to talk. They want me to sit and talk with them. Visiting these patients, I realize that some of the elderly patients do not have any family support. While talking to them, I am reflecting on when I get older what will it be like. Although I have my family would they be there for me. Being old and sick is very complicated especially for those who do not have family. I am enjoying visiting the patients. It is building me up spiritually.</p> <p>Each family meetings I attend is different. Today the family is a blended family that cannot seem to agree with each other. They are trying to come together for their love one sake but it is very difficult. I watch as the palliative care team try to get pass the family feud and deal with the issue on hand. Some of the family members are complaining that they are not given information about their relative. This meeting was very complicated. I can see that at times the team was getting frustrated. I listened attentively as the family went back and forth in making their decision. I realize that when sudden illness come up and the patient had no written wishes, it can be very complicated when it comes to making decision. I came out of the room thinking that I must make a living will, giving my instructions of what decisions are to be made in the case when I cannot speak for myself. This is the first time I really saw the urgent need to do this. I do not want anyone fighting over making my health care decisions. I want them to respect my wishes.</p>

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MEETING(S) WITH MENTOR(S) TOPICS OF DISCUSSION REFLECTIONS
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Today I sat down with my mentor to discuss the things that she is expecting me to do. We talked about how she felt about my performance overall. We also discuss how I felt as we came to the end of this first unit. We also talked about my classes for summer and fall and which ones she thinks will help me with my chaplaincy. My mentor has been a great support for me. She has helped me with getting the tools that I need to becoming a chaplain. She has also supported me when I became overwhelmed with my class assignments. I am looking forward to continue working with her in completing my field education.