SPIRITUALITY AND HOSPICE CARE IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

DESCRIPTION:

Studies show that Black Americans are less likely than White Americans to receive hospice care for a variety of reasons. Join Marisette Hasan and Dr. Doneila McIntosh for an important conversation on how spiritual care can play a vital role in engaging and supporting Black patients and their families in hospice care. The program will explore how faith beliefs, while supportive, can pose barriers to earlier admission and use of hospice services. Speakers will also discuss how IDT members can incorporate culturally sensitive and spiritually responsive perspectives into their work to better support Black patients and families.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

This presentation features experienced professionals offering their own expertise on the topic. On the screen, you will see the slide presentation and will be able to hear the experts talking and presenting. If you login for the live version of the program, you'll also have the opportunity to email or text the experts' questions that they will discuss and answer during the program's Q & A session.

LIVE DATE:	June 9, 2026
TIME:	Noon to 1:30pm ET
ON DEMAND:	Available for 6 months; until December 9, 2026
LENGTH:	90 minutes
CEs:	1.5 hours
CONTENT LEVEL:	The program is mainly for professionals already working in the field but is practical for all levels of education – entry level, intermediate or advanced.
TARGET AUDIENCE:	Health care clinicians, social service clinicians and others working in the hospice, palliative care, counseling, hospital, nursing home, funeral home, or faith community environments

This program will be live on the air date, recorded and made available for on demand viewing. The recorded program will be available approximately a day after the live event.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

To view the program, you will need a computer and screen, reliable internet access, and speakers.

TEST LINK for live program Audio and Video: https://zoom.us/test

Technical Questions? Please go to https://zoom.us/ and click "support"

PROGRAM FEES/REGISTRATION:

Registration includes continuing education and on-demand viewing for 6 months from live date. Register directly online at: https://www.hospicefoundation.org

Registration Options

- Individual: Live and on-demand viewing for one person.
- Organization/company: Unlimited viewing for employees within a single location.
- Organization + community license: Unlimited viewing for employees and community members at up to 3 locations.

ADVANCE PURCHASE

- Individual Viewer — Member: FREE | Non-member: $29.95
- Organizational Viewing — Member: FREE for up to 25 staff
- Organizational Viewing — Non-member: 1-12 staff – $79.95 | 13-25 staff – $135
- Organization + Community Access License: $390

SAME DAY and ON-DEMAND PURCHASE

- Individual Viewer — Member: FREE | Non-member: $39.95
- Organizational Viewing — Member: FREE for up to 25 staff
- Organizational Viewing — Non-member: 1-12 staff – $89.95 | 13-25 staff – $160.00
- Organization + Community Access License: $400

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. Describe at least three factors that contribute to lower or later hospice use among Black patients and families, including spiritual beliefs, mistrust, and structural barriers.
2. Differentiate between faith beliefs that support coping and those that may delay hospice acceptance when clinicians do not respond with culturally sensitive communication.
3. Apply at least three spiritually responsive, culturally sensitive interdisciplinary team strategies to improve engagement, trust, and support for Black patients and families receiving hospice care.

PROGRAM OUTLINE:

I. Welcome, speaker introductions, disclosure statements, and overview of session purpose. (5 min)
II. Current state of hospice disparities: review of recent data on hospice use, timing of referral, and end-of-life inequities affecting Black patients and families. (10 min)
III. Spirituality, faith, and meaning making in the Black community: how beliefs, church relationships, prayer, hope, and family decision-making may influence hospice conversations. (12 min)
IV. Common barriers to earlier hospice use: mistrust, prior negative health care experiences, lack of culturally concordant communication, misunderstanding of hospice, and perceived conflict between faith and prognosis. (13 min)
V. Interdisciplinary practice strategies: spiritual assessment, goals-of-care communication, chaplain involvement, collaboration with community clergy, family support, and culturally responsive care planning. (15 min)
VI. Case-based discussion: applying spiritually responsive approaches to a hospice referral conversation with a Black patient and family. (15 min)
VII. Key takeaways for IDT members and practice implications for hospice organizations. (10 min)
VIII. Question and answer session (10 min)

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

This program is valid for 1.5 continuing education contact hours. CE hours are available for 6 months, until December 9, 2026.

A complete list of board approvals for this program is posted to HFA's website at www.hospicefoundation.org on the program's registration page.

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:

Participants must attend the entire 1.5 hour program. Partial credit is not awarded. Participants must also complete the entire CE process online which includes a required evaluation form and exam. The exam must be completed at 80% or above (the exam may be re-taken, if necessary).

EXPERT PANELISTS:

Marisette Hasan, RN, BSN, is a 1981 graduate from the University of South Carolina with Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. She is the Principal & CEO for LifeSprings Consulting Group, LLC. She is passionately engaged in supporting hospice and palliative care providers and policy advocates to increase access and decrease end of life disparities for patients and caregivers who live in Black and Brown and underserved communities. Marisette is a 2024 SC Palmetto Gold Nursing Award Recipient. This accolade celebrates nurses who exemplify excellence in nursing practice and commitment to the nursing profession. Marisette also serves as the VP for Community Action & Policy with CTAC (Coalition to Transform Advanced Care) and is a Community Co-investigator for the Equal ACP & Equal Space African American Faith Advance Care Planning Research projects led by Dr. Kimberly Johnson.

Doneila McIntosh, PhD, MDiv, LAMFT (she/they) is an Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia, department of Human Development and Family Science with an emphasis in Couple and Family Therapy (CFT). Broadly, Doneila's research examines family processes and well-being, including couples, adults, children and adolescents, and parent-child dyads. Specifically, her research investigates how psychosocial and contextual factors–such as exposure to violence, traumatic loss, and behavioral health–shape family dynamics, mental health, relational well-being across the lifespan. As a therapist, Doneila specializes in grief therapy, primarily supporting youth and families in the aftermath of traumatic loss. Doneila was a recipient of the 2023 Ron Keith Barrett Multicultural Presentation Award from the Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC).

REVIEWER:

Lynda Shand, RN PhD, CHPN CNE, *Fellow,* NY Academy of Medicine and *Associate Professor,* Mercy University

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SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITY (ADA):

Reasonable accommodation may be made available, on an individual basis. To request accommodation, please contact HFA via email at educate@hospicefoundation.org or call 800-854-3402.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Planners (Panelists and Review Committee Members) disclose no conflict of interest relative to this educational activity. None of the planners or presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationships to disclose with ineligible companies.

FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES

Please contact Hospice Foundation of America (HFA)
5225 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Suite 403, Washington, DC 20015
educate@hospicefoundation.org
1-800-854-3402 toll-free / (202) 457-5811 phone
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