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APC Working with HPNF on Grant from ANF to Develop Grief Resources

To help address complex trauma resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, five leading organizations are collaborating to offer free innovative resources for frontline providers on grief education. The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation (HPNF), the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA), the Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network (SWHPN), the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), and the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) have received a grant from the American Nurses Foundation (ANF) to produce *Dealing with GRIEF: A Series of 5 Short, Powerful Videos*.

Caring for the physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual needs of patients and their families is a demanding vocation in typical times, and this initiative aims to provide timely and practical information during an unprecedented time. Research has also shown that a significant number of frontline providers, at all levels, exhibit secondary traumatic stress, bereavement, compassion fatigue, and burnout.

The five video vignettes and downloadable resources will be available in June 2021 and will be relevant to anyone working in a healthcare setting. The video topics include:

- The four things that matter most
- Cumulative grief
- Processing grief with so much happening in your day
- Supporting the grief process when significant others are not at the bedside
- Processing grief as a team

“APC is grateful to be part of this joint project, to help provide information and support to others on the topic of grief. APC could not think of a better combination of partners than HPNF, HPNA, SWHPN, and ONS to work with on this endeavor. Together our organizations represent the professionals on the frontline of supporting patients and their families during times of grief,” said Patricia Appelhans, APC’s CEO. “Our hope is that these 2-4-minute-long videos will be easily accessible and digestible for people and professionals in all types of settings. While our organizations understand that these videos are not the end of the conversations around grief, they will offer a starting point for people that are grieving and those who work with the grieving. Chaplains are an essential group when it comes to families and caregivers who need to work through the difficult stages of grief. We are humbled to add our chaplain’s expertise to this series.”

About APC

With commitment to interfaith ministry and the professional practice of chaplaincy care, the Association of Professional Chaplains® serves chaplains in all types of health and human service settings. Our more than 5,000 member chaplains and affiliates are involved in chaplaincy care of all persons, respecting their diverse cultures, identities, abilities, and beliefs. As a national, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) professional association, APC® advocates for quality chaplaincy care of all persons in health care facilities, correctional institutions, long-term care units, rehabilitation centers, hospice, the military and other specialized settings.