

August 2018

## Spiritual Care Practicums

“**A**men!” Not exactly an unexpected phrase to hear in the middle of a prayer. But this was emphatically intoned by Rick (name changed), an *agnostic*, who was lying in his bed at the Medical Center. You see, Hannah Lokos, a third year medical student, prayed for Rick during our last weekly Spiritual Care Practicum.



Most Friday afternoon during the school year, we host Spiritual Care Practicums at the Medical Center. Open to students and residents, practicums are “hands-on” opportunities where we equip future healthcare professionals to better integrate their Christian faith into their patient care. There is a training lecture (different topics each month), patient visits, and an interactive debrief time. Often coaches like Hannah accompany younger students on the patient visits.

As an added bonus, practicum participants who complete a prescribed curriculum, practical training, and online review/reflection assignments are awarded a Certificate of Completion. This recognizes the skills they have developed in caring for both the medical and spiritual needs of their patients. Many plan to list this accomplishment in their residency applications. And programs are showing interest in those with such training.



Earlier in their visit with Rick, one of the first year medical students had taken a “spiritual history” and learned of Rick’s skepticism about God. So they were a bit surprised that towards the end of their visit he was eager for them to pray for him. During the prayer, Hannah prayed for his recovery and for his medical team. She also asked that God would further reveal himself to Rick. It was at that point that Rick agreed with his astonishing “Amen”.

Would you join us in praying for Rick? Due to the severity of his illness, he will be in the hospital for a while and the students plan to visit him again.

Thank you so very much for making a difference in the lives of students and patients. Imagine more conversations, more prayers, and more patient responses like Rick’s happening in clinics and hospitals worldwide. With God’s blessing and his provision through you and others, this is happening. God bless you!



*Bob & Diana*

**Upcoming Events**  
**JOIN US!!!**

October 12-13-METS Whole Person Care Conference, Tulsa, OK  
October 19-20 METS Whole Person Care Conference, Boston, MA  
March 2019-Dominican Republic Medical Mission Trip

A caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ