



A law enforcement chaplain offers trauma-informed care to anyone experiencing a mental, emotional, or spiritual crisis due to a critical incident involving sudden loss and acute or cumulative trauma.

Available. Authentic. Affirming.

WCSO Chaplains work to offer a source of strength and comfort to agency staff and their families, community members, and adults in custody residing in the Washington County Jail. This pastoral care is compassionately extended to all people — regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, creed, or religion.

There are three main areas of emphasis that require consistent funding beyond the normal budget to support chaplaincy's diverse, challenging, and vital work.



AGENCY BENEVOLENCE

We “help the helpers” by directly supporting the overall well-being of WCSO staff and their families. Funds will be used to target a wide range of staff appreciation and wellness efforts and contribute to the ongoing maintenance of a responsive, active, and well-trained Peer Support Team.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

This entails providing immediate access to funds for emergency shelter, transportation, and/or food for victims of crime, domestic violence, or other critical incidents. This assistance would be made available through patrol-initiated requests and offered only as a “last resort” effort rather than a random “first come, first serve” approach.

Individuals or families in crisis needing urgent support or emergency services include those dealing with:

- Natural, “unattended” deaths
- Accidental, yet fatal overdoses
- Death notifications
- Traffic fatalities
- Intentional, completed suicides
- Assistance for DV victims



CHAPLAINCY & PEER SUPPORT TRAINING

Chaplaincy in a law enforcement or correctional setting requires a significant investment in initial and continued training to ensure personal and institutional safety and legal compliance. Volunteer chaplains may work inside the secured jail facility or be called upon to assist patrol deputies at a (potential) crime scene. These volunteers **MUST** be sufficiently trained and certified in policy and procedures and best practices of trauma-informed care and law enforcement culture to be most effective.

Chaplains are often the emotional first responders who help to triage the crisis until other people or resources can be identified and activated.

Chaplains offer professionalism and best practices of services, including confidential listening and spiritual counsel.



YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Your financial donation to the Washington County Sheriff's Office Foundation will directly support approved program expenses outside the general budget. Although there are several legitimate reasons why some worthwhile last-minute expenditures are not permitted, there are many equally valid reasons to fund immediate efforts apart from departmental budgetary constraints.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation established to provide accountability for all financial gifts made to advance this agency's mission and core values and benefit the community through programs that may not be fully funded. Chaplaincy, which involves Wellness and Peer Support, is one such program.

DONATE TODAY



Use this QR code or go to
[WCSOfoundation.org](https://wcsfoundation.org)

Please reference **Chaplain** in
the notes when donating.

SHERIFF
WASHINGTON COUNTY

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