

"TURNING THOSE IN CRISIS TOWARD CHRIST"

Emergency Chaplains

FEBRUARY 2022



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CRISIS RESPONSE CHAPLAIN

One of our Crisis Response Team chaplains was dispatched to a psychiatric call where a man was refusing treatment from an EMS crew. The gentleman had a long history of mental health issues and on this day he had put himself into a standoff with the paramedics. The patient was not acting appropriately and EMS needed to examine him to make sure that his behavior was not due to a medical problem.



As in many cases, the patient refused to allow the paramedics to do their job....so law

enforcement officers were called to the scene. The patient wasn't violent. He simply refused to be treated by EMS.

The officers tried to reason with him but the man refused to budge. A stalemate ensued.

When all attempts to reason with the patient had been exhausted, the officers were left with only one option....involuntary commitment. Handcuffs. Paperwork. Angry patient.

As a last resort the responders on scene decided to call for a chaplain to respond and see if we could resolve the problem.

The chaplain arrived on scene and spoke with the gentleman. The next thing you know, the patient stands up and voluntarily walks to the ambulance for a ride to the hospital to be checked out!

A few hours later, the chaplain went to the hospital to check on the patient. He was ready to be discharged so the chaplain was able to give him a ride home. It was a well-timed visit. You see, the primary reason this gentleman had been refusing to go to the hospital was due to a transportation issue....he didn't have a ride home.

On scene, a whole host of firefighters, medics and officers witnessed the power of God at work as our chaplain's presence and words accomplished, in a matter of minutes, what they had hoped would happen for over an hour. In addition, our chaplain was able to show compassion to a lonely, hurting man and point him toward Jesus on the ride home. It's amazing how open people are to hearing the truth about Jesus when you take some time to love on them.

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CHAPLAIN FIELD REPORTS

TWO CHAPLAINS RESPONDED to an accident on the Interstate where an infant had been ejected from the vehicle. Chaplains spent time on scene and at the hospital with family for several hours. Follow up was also made with law enforcement, EMS and 911 Communicators.

CHAPLAIN REQUESTED for a cardiac arrest with resuscitation efforts in progress. Upon arrival, the patient was being transported to a local hospital. Sheriff's deputies requested the chaplain go to the hospital to meet the family. Emergency Room staff were not able to resuscitate the patient, and the patient was pronounced dead. Chaplain stayed at the hospital with the family for almost three hours while waiting for other family to arrive.

ONE CHAPLAIN RESPONDED to a call involving sudden death. The deceased was participating in an addiction recovery program at the time. The chaplain cared for the family of the deceased as well as employees of the recovery program.

FOLLOWING A SHORT BATTLE with COVID, a young man was found deceased by his parents. Chaplain ministered to the parents and assisted them with finding a funeral home.

WHILE ASSISTING A FAMILY during an unexpected death, a chaplain had the opportunity to minister to two law enforcement officers. They shared about the stresses of their job and the chaplain was able to pray with them while on scene.

CHAPLAIN RECEIVED CALL from an individual struggling with depression and threatening suicide. The individual did not know who else to call and had found our phone number online. Chaplain kept the subject on the phone and asked for permission to send EMS to the residence. Subject agreed and chaplain stayed on phone until help arrived. Patient was transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

CHAPLAIN RESPONDED to assist after a sudden death. The surviving spouse suffered from dementia. Chaplain and officers were able to notify other family members. Not wanting to leave her alone, the chaplain stayed on scene for several hours until other family could arrive to care for the wife of the deceased.

CHAPLAIN REQUESTED to scene of a suspected overdose. Family had gathered on scene and were visibly distraught. Chaplain was able to provide coffee from a nearby McDonald's and sit with them as they worked through funeral plans. This type of care allows officers, medics, and firefighters to focus on the job at hand, all while knowing that the families of their patients are cared for.

MANAGER OF A LOCAL BUSINESS went into cardiac arrest while at work. Medics and firefighters performed life-saving efforts but were unsuccessful. Chaplain was requested to provide care for staff present at the business. The chaplain was on scene for almost three hours providing care while officers performed the death investigation.

Free Seminar for Churches/Small Groups

Intentional Neighboring

Responding to Everyday Crisis, Everyday

Prepare those in your group to engage friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, acquaintances, and even strangers with the love and comfort of Christ in difficult times.

We will provide this training event exclusively for your church or small group.

Contact Chaplain Ralph for info: (919) 280-8908

EChap Core Training

Do you sense God's call on your life to minister to those in your neighborhood, at work, or other places you go? Take the next step with EChap Core Training!

- Learn at your own pace—All Online
- 12 Courses in Program—Total Cost: \$120
- Get more information at: EChap.org/training

Call, text, or email with questions
Office@EChap.org—(919) 399-9468

Core Training will give you the skills and the confidence you need to build caring relationships with the hope of gaining permission to share the life changing Good News of Jesus in a non-threatening manner.