

“ *CPE has enabled me to help men who have lost hope to re-story their lives in a manner that leads to their healing.* — *Incarcerated CPE Student*

Transforming Lives Through Spiritual Care

Join Us in Supporting the Social Justice Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Program

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Without exaggeration, the SJ CPE unit has been the most transformative experience of my life...
— *Incarcerated CPE Student*

This experience was almost certainly the most meaningful I have had in seminary and among the most valuable I've had as a person. — *CPE Student and Seminarian*

These incarcerated spiritual care leaders continue to make the prison a safer place for the correctional staff and inmates as they de-escalate, diffuse, and offer spiritual care and counseling. — *Prison Warden*



Scan the QR Code with your camera app to learn more and donate.

A Unique Model Helping to Shape Futures

Volunteers of America of Minnesota offers a groundbreaking Social Justice Clinical Pastoral Education (SJ CPE) program inside the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Stillwater, a maximum-security prison. This accredited program, through the Department of Education and the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE), brings together incarcerated men and outside students for a transformative educational experience in spiritual care.

Innovative and Transformative Education

Our program is the only one in the United States that offers CPE inside a prison, serving people and communities often denied access to theological education and interfaith spiritual care. Incarcerated individuals, often serving life sentences, join outside students to form peer groups. These groups meet weekly inside the prison, engaging in interpersonal process work and training as spiritual care providers. Students spend the remainder of their CPE hours providing interfaith spiritual care in their respective settings (inside the prison and out in community).

Building Bridges and Changing Lives

By bringing together students from inside and outside prison as peers, SJ CPE fosters mutual transformation. Incarcerated students gain educational resources and develop crucial skills, while outside faith leaders witness and learn from the powerful work being done inside the prison. This exchange enriches all students, enhancing their ability to support and care for others both during the CPE unit and in how they serve and engage with their communities going forward.



Your Support Matters

Prayer: Please keep our staff, CPE students, and those they serve in your prayers.

Financial Support: Your generosity helps sustain this vital work. **Scan the QR code below to make a tax-deductible donation.**

Learn More: Invite Rev. Dr. Laura Thelander, our Director of Spiritual Care and Social Justice CPE, to speak at your faith community by emailing laura.thelander@voamn.org.



bit.ly/SupportSJCPE

