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Ecumenical Institute

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Ecumenical Institute is accredited by:

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Educating people to meet spiritual needs in the community.



Ecumenical Institute

Training Faith Based Caregivers

The Goal:
To more effectively love, care, and minister to the needs of people, both in the church and community.



What is the Ecumenical Institute?

Ecumenical Institute (EI) is a non-profit accredited organization that mobilizes pastoral care in Northwest Iowa. EI provides training and resources for caregivers who strengthen the community through caring and faith in daily life. The core program has been to offer training in spiritual caregiving for these last 50 years. EI's mission lies within this transformational training accomplished through professional in-depth sessions, consisting of 400 hours of instruction and active practice.

Students learn by reflecting on their own ministry experience by applying lessons taught in classroom instruction. The students' ministries in their communities can be either salaried or volunteer. Since 1968, over 600 students have graduated from this institute. Long distance learning is now provided also. In this model students meet together in the beginning of the course and brings closure at the end. In between times, they meet via the internet with their peers and instructor.

In the professional field, EI's training is recognized as a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and is an accredited center with an ACPE Certified Educator. Students enrolled in college have often received credit toward their sought after degree from this unit. The unit it provides an aid to seminary students by having hands-on, heart-to-heart training that is expected by their denomination prior to ordination. EI alleviates a growing shortage of pastors by providing more lay leaders equipped for caregiving.

Graduates of the CPE program have become chaplains at hospitals, rural churches, nursing homes, and in the workplace, including factories. Many of the students are in jobs where they serve in social work, hospice, nursing, and counseling. EI is striving to provide an innovative holistic approach to community care.

Ecumenical Institute in Cherokee

The Ecumenical Institute has been operating as a charitable organization since 1968. EI has been mobilizing pastoral care for the Residents of Northwest Iowa and recently Nationwide.

Contributions are deductible. Checkout our webpage at ecumenicalinstitute.org or talk to your financial planner, attorney, estate planner or board member. You can leave a legacy for future caregivers.

Helping others is a big deal to God. The prophet Isaiah made that point to the nation of Israel. The people were fasting but still quarreling and fighting. Instead, said Isaiah: "Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you... share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them and do not hide your relatives who need your help" (Isaiah 58:6-7 NLT) Such a sacrifice, said Isaiah, share's God's light but also heals our own brokenness (V.8) This is God's promise for being generous: "Your godliness will lead you forward, and the glory of the Lord will protect you from behind: (V.8 NLT) In the end, giving will bless you more. And God? He already gave His all –with love. Lord, light the path of generosity, helping us to give like You. God gave His all. Let's follow as He leads.

Leave a Legacy - Make a Difference in the Lives that Follow.



The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) reached a milestone of fifty years in 2017; ACPE is an accredited educational process with the US Department of Education and is mandated as the educational venue for ordination in many denominations and by the Defense Department for training military chaplains.

Important Questions **Answered**

Accredited Learning
ACPE Certified Educator

- Supervised pastoral ministry
- Caregiver skills developed
- Convenience: time/place
- Collegial peer support
- Creativity challenges
- Affordability

ecumenicalinstitute.org