



Clinical Fellowship in Psychodynamic Chaplaincy

January–December 2026 • Spiritual Care Association (SCA)

Who it's for

Board-certified SCA chaplains (or chaplains with 4 CPE units and clinical experience) who want advanced, **psychodynamically informed** practice.

Program snapshot

- **Length:** 12 months (Jan–Dec 2026)
- **Cohorts:** Initial class up to **16 Fellows** (two cohorts of 6–8)
- **Format (4 pillars):**
 1. **Monthly Didactic (1.5 hr)** – second Tuesdays, **8:00–9:30 pm ET / 5:00–6:30 pm PT**
 2. **Case Consultation Groups – 2×/month, 2 hrs** each (cohort-scheduled)
 3. **Group Supervision – 1×/month, 1.5 hrs** (cohort-scheduled)
 4. **Individual Supervision – 2×/month, 1 hr** (scheduled with supervisor)
- **Experiential add-on:** Option to participate in a 3-day **Group Relations** conference (in-person or online).

Director & Lead Supervisor

David Roth, PhD, Clinical Chaplain; Diplomate in Pastoral Supervision/CPE Supervisor;
Founder, ClinicalChaplaincy.org Email: davidroth@clinicalchaplaincy.org

What you'll learn

A practical, clinically grounded model integrating:

- **Psychodynamic concepts:** transference, countertransference, “ever-present others”; ethical use of self (after Cooper-White).
- **Affective & neuropsychanalytic foundations:** Panksepp’s primary emotion systems; Solms and colleagues on affect, memory, prediction error, and reconsolidation—applied to listening, presence, and relational attunement.
- **Reframing “religion/spirituality”:** Geertz’s cultural-systems lens for religious, spiritual, or secular meaning-making (symbolic, affective, embodied).
- **Abductive clinical reasoning:** cultivating curiosity and hypothesis formation in uncertainty (James; Sebeok).

- **Group/organizational dynamics:** BART (boundary, authority, role, task), cultural countertransference, ethics, power, and system-level work.
- **Reflective supervision & experiential learning** tightly linked to real casework.

12-Session Didactic Outline (tentative)

1. Defining Psychodynamically Informed Clinical Chaplaincy
2. Foundations: Affective Neuroscience & (Neuro)Psychoanalysis
3. “Religion” as Cultural System
4. Deep Listening, Emotional Field, Attunement
5. Transference, Countertransference, Use of Self
6. Clinical Curiosity, SEEKING, and Hypothesis Formation
7. Meaning, Memory, Prediction & Reconsolidation
8. Clinical Presence & Somatic Awareness
9. Group/Org Dynamics: BART & Neuroaffective Perspectives
10. Cultural Countertransference & System Work
11. Endings, Legacy, Integration
12. Open Forum: Synthesis & Clinical Identity

Commitment & expectations

- **Attendance:** ≥ 85% across all components
- **Monthly reflective writing** (typically 1 case reflection/month)
- **Active participation** in cohort learning and confidentiality adherence

How to apply (PDFs preferred)

Email **one message** with the following to **davidroth@clinicalchaplaincy.org**:

1. **Statement of Interest & Intent** (500–700 words): your learning aims + current clinical context
2. **CV/Resume, including board certification(s), if any**
3. **Supervisor/Manager Letter** or email of institutional support (*optional but encouraged*)
4. **Brief Case Vignette** (400–600 words, de-identified) focusing on your role and a clinical challenge
5. **Availability constraints** (days/times; time zone)

Applications open: October 1, 2025 (rolling review until full).

Program dates: January–December 2026.

Tuition & completion

- **Tuition: \$7,500** (two installments: half due within 30 days of acceptance; balance by **March 31, 2026**)
- **SCA Clinical Fellow in Psychodynamic Chaplaincy Certificate** awarded upon successful completion.

Point of contact: davidroth@clinicalchaplaincy.org