

PRESS RELEASE

CFR AWARDED \$20,000 TO EXPAND ACCESS TO ITS POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY FOR MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY

January 9, 2024 | The Council for Relationships (CFR) is pleased to announce the receipt of a \$20,000 grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. This generous funding will facilitate the expansion of access to CFR's esteemed Postgraduate Certificate Program in Marriage & Family Therapy (MFT) specifically for members of the clergy in the Philadelphia area.

Program Director Rev. Dr. Dolores (Dee) E. Littleton, LMFT, had this to say about the impact the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation has already had:

"This grant has been a blessing for our Clergy programs and students. The clergy that are drawn to our programs tend to be gifted and talented in serving their congregations, and they are committed to lifelong learning. They come to CFR seeking to gain new skills for pastoral and therapeutic and organizational excellence."

Established in 1932, CFR has been a leading institution in mental health professional training. The Postgraduate Certificate Program in MFT, initiated in 1948, is at the forefront of providing education and practical application of the latest developments in couple/marital, sex, and family therapy. The program uniquely integrates pastoral and systemic theology, addressing the intricate dynamics of family relationships. Graduates consistently describe the experience as "enriching," "powerful," and "invaluable."

Designed to enhance the skills of priests, rabbis, imams, and other clergy members offering spiritual guidance within congregations and communities, CFR's Postgraduate Certificate Program in MFT is an invaluable resource. The recent \$20,000 award from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation will specifically benefit 13 Philadelphia-area clergy members by providing crucial financial assistance for their enrollment.



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For detailed information on this initiative and how clergy members can benefit from this opportunity, please visit www.councilforrelationships.org/clergy. Elevate your pastoral and therapeutic skills with CFR's Postgraduate Certificate Program in Marriage & Family Therapy.

About Council for Relationships

Council for Relationships is a nonprofit organization founded in 1932 that strengthens interpersonal connections through accessible, specialized, and expert individual, relationship, and family therapy, clinical training, and research. The organization believes that thriving relationships lead to flourishing communities.

More than 80 therapists and psychiatrists provide counseling to individuals, couples, and families in-person at 8 offices and community-based locations in the greater Philadelphia area and online across PA & NJ. Additionally, more than 60 clinical interns per year participating in CFR's clinician education programs provide counseling on a sliding fee scale. To learn more, visit councilforrelationships.org.

About the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation:

E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation was formed in 1975 as E. Rhodes Carpenter Foundation by E. Rhodes Carpenter, founder of the Richmond, Virginia based company now known as Carpenter Co.

During Mr. Carpenter's lifetime, the Foundation made a few substantial gifts but for the most part had minimal assets. In accordance with Mr. Carpenter's wishes, the Foundation received significant funding following his death in 1980. His wife, Leona B. Carpenter, died a year later leaving substantial assets to the Foundation. In 1982, the name of the Foundation was changed to E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. The Foundation operates independently of, and has no connection to, Carpenter Co.

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