

## Chaplaincy Innovation Lab Project Leader Agreement

Thank you for joining us in the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab! We are grateful that you share our vision for an enriched chaplaincy profession backed by meaningful research and responsive to today's spiritual care needs. We're also excited that you'd like to utilize the Lab as a platform for your work.

CIL Project Leaders are scholars, educators and practitioners working on a significant research or educational project focused on chaplaincy / spiritual care. Typically, their projects are funded and being conducted in collaboration with at least one colleague. The Lab does not endorse projects; instead, it gathers people working on related topics for shared growth and exchange.

This document offers a general outline about the relationship between the Lab and Project Leaders:

- Project Leaders have access to:
  - Email and zoom conversation with other Project Leaders for advice, collaboration, etc.
  - Feedback on their project from the advisory board at least once per year
  - Brainstorming with the administrative leadership team about funding for their projects
  - Publicity for their project, findings, recruitment, etc. through the contact lists and social media of the Lab
- We assume all Project Leaders are comfortable with the Lab's core principles:
  - **All are welcome.** Spiritual need and distress are not limited to any group, and the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab excludes none. We foster a chaplaincy responsive to all individuals, regardless of religious affiliation (including none), race, nationality, or sexual orientation and gender identity.
  - **Research-driven.** Good chaplains build on their abilities for interpersonal support and combine them with research for best practice. The Lab builds on those skills and informs professional chaplaincy from rigorous academic research that can be shared, interpreted, and taught.
  - **We respect differences.** Chaplaincy does not seek to proselytize, convert, or otherwise convince others of one's own religious or spiritual convictions. Chaplaincy practice effective in one cultural context may be ineffective, or even hurtful, in another. We promote a professional field that remains cognizant of cultural and individual needs to recognize diversity within communities.
- We assume Project Leaders are comfortable contributing to the success of the Lab by:
  - Reporting on their project through the monthly newsletter and social media for the Lab.
  - Mentoring someone junior to them throughout their affiliation as a Project Leader, either through their project or more generally.
- Project Leaders are free (and encouraged!) to mention and discuss their affiliation with the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab in promoting their work.

To apply to be a Project Leader, please send the following information to Michael Skaggs at [muskaggs@brandeis.edu](mailto:muskaggs@brandeis.edu):

- Resume / CV of main researchers
- Abstract of project
- 3-5 page description of project
- Names and contact information (not letters) for two references

Project Leader applications will be reviewed by the Lab's Senior Advisory Committee on a bi-monthly basis.