

2022-2024 Resident in Faith and Health

Program Hosts: Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church and Church Health

Memphis, Tennessee

Start Date: July 2022

ABOUT PROGRAM HOSTS

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, lovingly known as “The BLVD,” was the first African American church in the city of Memphis under the doctrine of the Disciples of Christ (DOC). It is a church leading, learning, living, and loving without limits, just as Jesus Christ did, while worshipping at two locations in the Memphis area.

Church Health is a faith-based, nonprofit organization in Memphis, Tennessee, that provides comprehensive health care and health services to individuals with little or no access to affordable health care. Since its inception in 1987, Church Health has served more than 70,000 people and has extended training, education, and outreach to countless individuals and organizations under the guiding mission to reclaim the church’s biblical commitment to care for our bodies and our spirits.

WHY A RESIDENCY?

Starting in ministry can be difficult. We are here to give you the foundation you need so you can further the gospel call to preach, teach and heal. Mentorship from both clergy and nonprofit leaders will provide support and guidance for the Resident in preparing to enter the next stage in their ministry, more grounded in their sense of call, confident in their particular gifts, and equipped with the skills necessary to effect impactful and transformative change wherever they serve.

WHY A CHURCH AND A NOT-FOR-PROFIT?

We are inspired by this quote from Thurgood Marshall: “We who understand the church, must go back to the original notion that the city is the parish of the church, and the citizens are the responsibility of the church.” This special partnership between a congregation and a not-for-profit empowers a Resident to start a ministry career with this call in mind. Focusing on the social determinates of health, MBCC and CH will give the Resident a better understanding of the administrative and ministerial responsibilities of serving a congregation and a community.

WHY MEMPHIS?

We believe that Memphis is a great city. A real city with problems that need to be solved. A growing city with opportunities to be seized. A fun city with so much to enjoy. Spending a year in Memphis will allow you to learn and experience the story of Memphis. The Bluff City showcases innovation, hope, and what Memphians call grit and grind. It's certainly not all rosy, but history and wisdom give us the opportunity to improve. From Graceland, the Grizzlies to the Zoo and BBQ, your time in Memphis will be filled with amazing community, friendly people, delicious food, great music venues, and a growing vertical village within Crosstown Concourse. Memphis changes people, teaching them to care more about the world around them.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- Salary: Full-time salary provided for duration of 24-month residency.
- Housing: Housing provided in a studio apartment for duration of 24-month residency. Apartment located at the [Parcels at Crosstown Concourse](#). Apartment is in the same building as CH and is 1.1 miles from MBCC.
- Benefits: Medical, dental, and vision insurance offered through CH.
- Free membership to the Church Health YMCA, also located in Crosstown Concourse.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church (MBCC) and Church Health (CH) are seeking a Resident in Faith and Health. Utilizing theological training, the Resident will engage in pastoral care through the lens of whole person, whole church, and whole community care. Informed by the core commitments of these two organizations, the Resident will learn about the processes that enable MBCC and CH to care for the Memphis community and assist in developing innovative ways for MBCC and CH to continue to live out its mission in the greater Memphis area. This position will be divided evenly between MBCC and CH for the duration of a 24-month residency.

POSITION SUPERVISORS

Senior Pastor, MBCC

Director of Spiritual Care, CH

PRINCIPLE FUNCTIONS

At MBCC, the Resident in Faith and Health will rotate throughout the administrative and ministerial departments of MBCC learning about MBCC structure and core processes. The Resident will also serve as a member of the ministerial team. The Resident will be responsible for providing support and oversight to a ministry area as assigned by the Senior Pastor. Through this assignment, the Resident will take the lead in designing and executing programs within their ministry area, recruit volunteers, manage relationships, and propose improvements where possible. The Resident will also participate in worship leadership, attend church council meetings, and learn how MBCC engages in ministry with strategic partners in the Greater Memphis area.

At CH, the Resident will work alongside the Director of Spiritual Care and Faith Community Engagement Coordinator to assist CH in developing and deepening relationships within the Memphis Faith Community. The Resident will lead a Quality Improvement project aimed at enhancing the spiritual care experience of CH patients. The Resident will assist in coordinating the weekly chapel service and offer regular reflections/homilies during CH gatherings, as well as participate in the Spiritual Care in Medicine teaching series. The Resident will also serve as part of the Spiritual Care Consultation team that supports the spiritual and emotional health of CH staff.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church

The Resident in Faith and Health, as assigned by the Senior Pastor may provide leadership, management and administrative support to specific ministries that include:

- Discipleship Ministries
- New Disciples Ministry
- Young Adult Ministry
- Community Outreach
- Worship Planning
- Congregational Care
- Manna Outreach Ministry
- Digital Engagement Ministry

This position will serve as a liaison between the staff at MBCC and Church Health. The Resident will also be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Senior Pastor.

Church Health

As a direct expression of Church Health's mission to reclaim the biblical commitment to caring for body and spirit, the Resident in Faith and Health will serve as:

- Faith Community Coordinator: Responsible for working alongside CH staff to steward existing and develop new relationships among our faith community partners.
- Worship Experience Coordinator: Responsible for the planning, promotion and facilitation of CH's weekly chapel service and offering reflections during Staff Meetings in partnership with CH staff.
- Spiritual Leader: Responsible for encouraging an internal culture that explores the impact of faith on health and its role in how CH cares for its patients and the broader Memphis area.
- Other capacity-building responsibilities as assigned.

MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Master of Divinity Degree preferred from an accredited theological seminary.

SPECIAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Dedication to congregational ministry
- Spiritually mature
- Teachable spirit
- Demonstrated understanding of the connection between faith and health
- Visionary and a self-starter
- Effective leadership skills
- Strategic thinker
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Excellent project management and planning skills

HOW TO APPLY

Send resume and cover letter to Joshua Narcisse, Director of Spiritual Care, Church Health at FHResidency@churchhealth.org by Monday, November 29, 2021, 6pm CDT.