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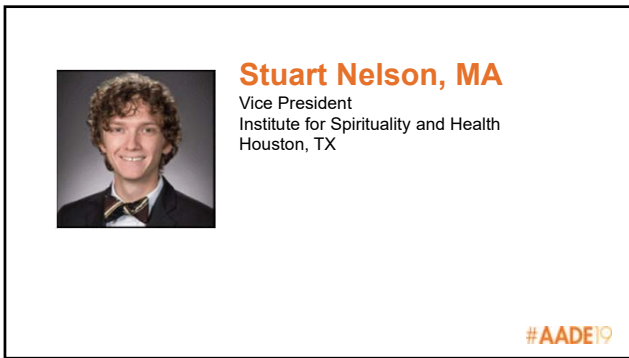
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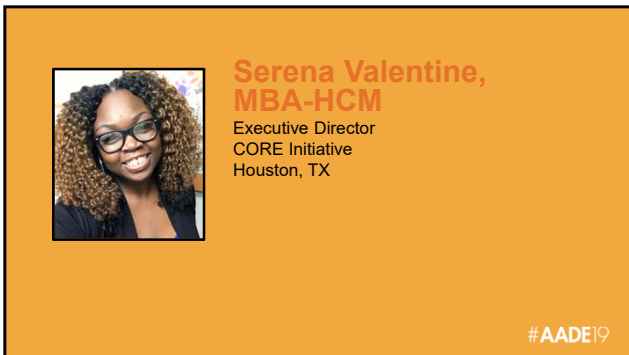
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### Disclosure to Participants

- Notice of Requirements For Successful Completion
  - Learning goals and objectives on next slide
  - Learners must attend the full activity and complete the evaluation in order to claim continuing education credit/hours
- Conflict of Interest (COI) and Financial Relationship Disclosures:
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  - Presenter: Thomasina Burns - NONE
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  - Participants will be notified by speakers to any product used for a purpose other than for which it was approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

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### Learning Objectives

- Learn to create tools to engage faith communities in a culturally considerate way.
- Recognize the nuances of religious belief and practice, and their relationship to health promotion.
- Describe the unique considerations that must be made when working with communities of faith.

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### The Faith + Diabetes Initiative

- **The Faith and Diabetes Initiative** *is part of Cities Changing Diabetes – Houston and is an effort to engage communities of faith around diabetes awareness, prevention, and treatment.*

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### Congregational Health Leadership Training Program

- Central to *The Faith and Diabetes Initiative* is the **Congregational Health Leadership** program, which empowers lay leaders in diverse communities of faith to address pressing health issues, with a special focus on diabetes.

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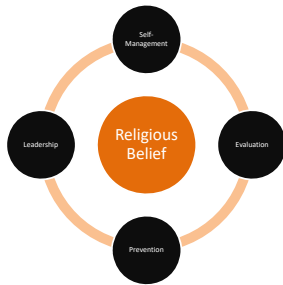
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### Congregational Health Leadership Training



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### Faith + Diabetes Houston

- 40 • Congregational Health Leaders Trained
  - From 3 different Faith traditions – Christian, Muslim, Hindu
- 22 • Houses of Faith and faith-based community organizations
  - Throughout Harris and Fort Bend County
- 300+ • People reached through Diabetes Self-Management Classes
  - Classes provided in English and Spanish

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### Religious Studies

- Describes, compares, explains, and interprets traditions.
  - Contexts vary widely
  - Key concept: reflexivity
- \*\* Different from seminary, divinity, theology, etc.

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### Religious Studies x Public Health

- Can we draw upon theories and methods from religious studies to aid in diabetes education?
- Yes! The **Building Blocks Approach** (Taves) has been employed in this initiative.

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### The Beauty of Plurality



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### Differences Are Important to Recognize

According to your tradition...

- What does it mean to be healthy?
- What's the best way to become healthy?
- What ultimate concerns should we care about?
- What "big questions" are important, and how can we answer them?
  - Where do we come from? Where are we going? What is the purpose of our time on earth? What is the nature of the divine?

We likely all have different answers to these questions, sometimes even within the same tradition! #AADE19

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### More differences...

Q: What are some ways in which a community of faith is different from, say, a school, business, public community center, library, etc.?

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So, it is difficult to make generalizations across traditions, but there is *something* that distinguishes religious from secular...

Across traditions we all have examples of...

### SPECIAL THINGS

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**In our traditions, we have some version of special...**

- People
- Places
- Times and Seasons
- Objects
- History
- Values and Decision Making
- Powers/Forces
- Goals and Methods
- Beliefs
- Texts
- Practices/Rituals
- Sources of Authority
- Stories
- Food
- Music
- Language
- Symbols
- Artwork
- Rules/Customs

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**How can we leverage these special things towards building cultures of health?**

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**The Strength of Faith + Diabetes**

- Health information and support from their most trusted source
- Peer to Peer teaching and learning
- Participants have a spiritual foundation
- Dovetails well with other initiatives (Peer Support, for example)

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### Our Biggest Challenges

- Consistency amongst the leaders
- Religious politics and bureaucracy
- Building confidence

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### The Amazing Opportunities

- Widespread impact
  - The ability to reach beyond the participants
- Impacting and changing the culture of health
- Restoring faith in Healthcare
- Reaching people who are difficult to reach

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### The BEST part!

- New Relationships
- The Impact
- Exposure
- Expansion

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**A story...**

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**Q & A**

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**Feel free to contact us...**

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