

Religion, Health, and Healing Initiative

Resource Guide

I. Religious and Spiritual Healing Resources in Greater Boston (p. 2-8)

This document contains a short guide to religious and spiritually based healing resources in the greater Boston area. Written by Sharon Kivenko, it was originally published in 2004 as part of *Religious Healing in Boston: Body, Spirit, Community*.

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III. Breast Cancer Research Project (p. 13-14)

An overview of the Religion, Health, and Healing Breast Cancer Project, and a list of practitioners interviewed.

Religious and Spiritual Healing Resources in Greater Boston

Sharon Kivenko

Introduction

This document contains a short guide to religious and spiritually based healing resources in the greater Boston area. The intention of this guide is to provide Boston-area chaplains, pastoral counselors, nurses, physicians, and students a place to explore and begin deeper considerations of the wealth of healing modalities, philosophies, rituals, materials, and communities from which many of the people with whom they interact draw. These resources can be of particular importance to health care providers and chaplains who serve diverse populations, and who wish to identify resources that are culturally appropriate and religiously meaningful for clients and patients. Thus, this guide is designed to encourage healers of all kinds to recognize and explore the diverse ways in which people of various faith traditions and healing paths conceptualize and strive for wellness and healing in the world today.

From September 2000 to June 2004, the Religion, Health, and Healing Initiative under the direction of Susan Sered, in collaboration with the Boston Healing Landscape Project directed by Linda Barnes, and with the help of students of Harvard Divinity School, Boston University School of Medicine and School of Public Health, and other friends and collaborators worked to develop projects charting Boston-area groups and people who are engaged in religious or spiritual healing practices.

The spiritual and religious contexts in which healing takes place are diverse and thriving, ranging from Ecumenical Healing Touch and Prayer Services for AIDS sufferers organized by the Ecumenical Task Force on AIDS, to Reiki energy work offered as laying on of the hands practice at the Center for Faith, Health and Spirituality at Andover Newton Theological School; from Seventh-Day Adventist Cardio-Kick-Boxing classes offered at the Boston Temple Church, to the Women's Lodge Circles that meet each week at St. John's United Methodist Church in Watertown; from Haitian *oungans* and *mambos* to African-American root doctors, faith healers, and charismatic preachers.

Many of these venues and modalities have been described and analyzed in a series of essays (of which this booklet is the third) entitled *Religious Healing in Boston* and published by the Center for the Study of World Religions. These essays are available on-line at: http://www.hds.harvard.edu/csww/research/RHHI/rhhi_publications.html.

In addition to the healing practices, approaches, rituals, and communities discussed in the *Religious Healing in Boston* volumes, over two hundred files containing material of all sorts related to religion, health, and healing in Boston have been collected by affiliates of the Religion, Health, and Healing Initiative. This material has been organized into a database that has been passed on to Harvard University's Pluralism Project as a part of its mission to help Americans engage with the realities of religious diversity through research, outreach, and the active dissemination of resources. The material is available to students, chaplains, and other interested individuals. In order to arrange an appointment to use the database, please contact the Pluralism Project staff. Contact information is available on the website: <http://www.pluralism.org/about/index.php>.

Information, resources, contacts, and research collected by the Boston Healing Landscape Project since 2000 have focused mainly on African diaspora communities. The BHLPP website is a rich resource for health care providers and others interested in health and healing issues and resources in African American, Latino/a, and African immigrant communities. The website is: <http://www.bmc.org/pediatrics/special/bhlp/pages/about/about.htm>.

Selected Organizations of Interest

The information in this guide is compiled from the Religious Healing in Boston database as well as from the findings of the Boston Healing Landscape Project. Please note that inclusion of names and contact information of the organizations in this list does not indicate that we support their work or that we have studied their healing interventions for potential efficacy. Rather, this list is meant to suggest the

diversity of religiously oriented healing approaches found in the Boston area. Please note that this is a small sample of the material found on the websites and in the database, and an even smaller sample of the religious healing activities that are actually going on around us here in Boston today.

Community Organizations

BOSTON ALLIANCE OF GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER YOUTH (BAGLY)

Youth led and adult supported, BAGLY is a resource for coming out, weekly meetings, and other events. The weekly meetings are for youth ages twenty-two and under, and provide a safe venue for youth to meet new friends, share experiences, and become leaders. The BAGLY Prom is one of the organizations most popular events, and draws over a thousand youth each year. BAGLY also provides youth with an environment free of sex, drugs/alcohol, violence/weapons, and pressure, and has served the LGBT Youth community for over twenty years.

• <http://www.bagly.org>

Note that many local churches and synagogues are open to and affirming of gay and lesbian people. Some of these congregations include:

- Arlington Street Church (Unitarian Universalist), 351 Boylston Street, Boston
- Dignity Boston (Catholic), <http://www.dignity-boston.org/>
- Metropolitan Community Church (multidenominational), 131 Cambridge Street, Boston
- Am Tikva (Jewish), 617-279-3289

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS

Bridge Over Troubled Waters defines its mission as doing “whatever may be necessary or desirable to assist youth, who are on the streets with no one to comfort them, to achieve a place in society as fulfilled and productive adults.” For thirty-four years, Bridge has provided effective outreach, counseling, and medical services to runaway and homeless youth in the greater Boston area and the surrounding suburbs who would otherwise have nowhere else to turn. Most youth who end up on the streets have been the victims of neglect, abuse, or abandonment. Bridge provides services to meet the individualized needs of these young people. By providing these services within a safe, supportive environment, Bridge empowers youth to become independent, self-sufficient adults.

• <http://www.bridgeovertroubledwater.org/default.asp>

CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAITIAN MULTI-SERVICE CENTER

The Haitian Multi-Service Center, the largest social

service agency serving the Haitian community in the Greater Boston area, serves the needs of Boston’s 25,000 to 30,000 Haitians, in a linguistically and culturally sensitive manner. Serving more than 6,000 families annually, it fosters economic and social self-sufficiency. On-site programs include Adult Education (Literacy, ESL, GED, External Diploma Program with the Boston Public Schools, Citizenship, Computer Literacy, Education for Employment), Day Care, Immigration and Refugee Assistance, Food Pantry, Haitian Elders, and an AIDS support program. The Center promotes community development through a “Haitian-serving-Haitians” model, reaching out to the broader community through collaborations with other agencies and institutions,

• <http://www.volunteersolutions.org/boston/org/214744.html>

HALEY HOUSE

A spiritually based community informed by the tradition of the Catholic Worker Movement. The community’s mandate is “to minister to the needs of society’s forgotten people; and to challenge and offer alternatives to the attitudes, institutions and structures that create and perpetuate suffering and violence. Haley House sponsors What’s Up magazine, a source of community-based alternative media. The content combines the arts with social awareness to encourage social consciousness. It ranges from interviews with musicians to issues like the housing crisis, the destruction of the environment, and spirituality. The House is also a human service provider that aids the homeless and low-income, who take part in contributing and distributing the magazine, which is currently published monthly.

• <http://www.haleyhouse.org>

HEALING PARTNERS

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF METROWEST BOSTON

An interfaith program offering support groups facilitated by social workers and clergy members for the chronically ill, caregivers, and the bereaved providing spiritual, psychological, and practical guidance for individuals of any or no religious affiliation. Also facilitates congregational support within specific faith traditions, as well as education and training for faith communities, organizations, health care workers and volunteers. Publishes *A Spiritual Tool Kit for Health and Well-Being*, a resource guide to a range of community, healing, prayer, ritual, meditation, and wellness options available to any and all interested in community building, health maintenance, and healing.

• <http://www.jfsmw.org/theal.html>

JRI HEALTH LAW INSTITUTE

Justice Resource Institute, a Massachusetts based agency, provides hope and opportunity to children and adults whose physical, emotional, or learning-related disability requires innovative and specialized support and treatment. The Institute designs and implements programs that provide the most effective rehabilitative and habilitative approaches. JRI defines its mission as the pursuit of social justice inherent in opening doors to opportunity and independence. It “directs itself to the challenge of offering hope and promise of fulfillment to children, adults, and families who are at risk of not receiving effective services essential to their safety, progress, and/or survival,” and seeks “to work with communities to enhance cooperative initiatives, and mutual understanding and acceptance.”

• <http://www.jri.org/hli.html>

MASSACHUSETTS ALLIANCE OF PORTUGUESE SPEAKERS (MAPS)

A nonprofit, community-based organization that provides health and social services for Portuguese-speaking communities. MAPS programs include education and prevention services, such as youth programs, tobacco prevention and cessation activities, HIV/AIDS outreach and education, and community health outreach helping with such issues as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Care and treatments services are also offered in the form of HIV counseling and testing, case management and transportation, outpatient counseling, acupuncture detoxification, and driver alcohol education. MAPS has a Health Services toll-free hotline (1-800-232-7725), and has five offices in the Greater Boston region, locations of which can be found on their website.

• <http://maps-inc.org/ehome.htm>

PARISH-BASED HEALTH MINISTRY (PBHM)

NORWOOD, MA

An outreach program of the Caritas Christi (Catholic) Health Care System, PBHM assists local faith communities in their efforts to create responsive, healthy living environments that enhance the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being of its members. Recognizing that health and faith are closely linked, PBHM integrates both aspects of care by delivering collaborative health, wellness, and preventive care services within local parishes. It is designed to provide ways for parish leadership to help parishioners recognize and address their health needs; works with parish leadership to identify the health needs of the parish; and, with a health team of parishioners, cultivates programs that serve those

needs. The Caritas Christi Parish Nurse Program provides personal health counseling, health education and health fairs, needs assessments, volunteer coordination, referrals to community resources and services, and role modeling to promote the relationship between faith and health. The parish nurses' role does not duplicate other nursing or medical services available in the community, nor does it include invasive procedures.

• http://www.caritaschristi.org/site_content_2.asp?s=527

PROJECT BREAD

Project Bread's mission is to alleviate, prevent, and ultimately end hunger in Massachusetts. The Project makes emergency food accessible to those who would otherwise go hungry; educates, mobilizes, and empowers people through The Walk for Hunger and other avenues of action; researches and develops solutions to end hunger; and advocates, in partnership with others, freedom from hunger across the state.

• <http://www.projectbread.org>

BOSTON CENTER FOR REFUGEE HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

The Center is a collaboration of Boston Medical Center (Departments of Medicine, Psychiatry, Family Medicine, Social Work, Pediatrics, and Interpreter Services), Boston University (Schools of Medicine, Public Health, Dentistry, Law, and Social Work) and Global Lawyers and Physicians, a non-governmental organization. The Center provides comprehensive medical, mental health, and dental care, coordinated with legal and social services for this patient population. The Center offers Adult and Pediatric Primary Care, Mental Health, Dental Care, Social Services, Legal Aid, Physical Therapy, Medical Subspecialty Consultation, Medical and Psychological Evaluations for Asylum Cases and Court Appearances.

• <http://www.glphr.org/refugee>

Boston-Based HIV/AIDS-Related Organizations**AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE OF MASSACHUSETTS**

AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts was founded in 1983. It is a not-for-profit, community-based health organization whose mission is to stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic by preventing new infections and optimizing the health of those already infected. With more than seventy staff and hundreds of volunteers, AIDS Action assists people of all cul-

tures by providing services, education, advocacy, and prevention. The organization accomplishes that mission by providing support services for people living with AIDS and HIV; educating the public and health professionals about how to prevent HIV transmission; and advocating for fair and effective AIDS policy at the city, state and federal levels.

• <http://www.aac.org/site/PageServer>

BLACK HIV/AIDS COALITION

In an effort to slow the number of new HIV and AIDS cases among African Americans in Massachusetts, the Congressional Black Caucus developed an initiative that recently won the state more than \$13 million. More than a dozen local health organizations and the city and state health departments will receive funding from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other federal agencies, with a majority of the services focused on Greater Boston. Organizations which are part of the Coalition include: Black Men's Health Alliance, WEATOC, Inc., Massachusetts DPH, Boston Public Health Commission, Springfield Southwest Community Health Center, Dimock Community Health Center, Women of Color AIDS Council, John Snow Institute, Boston Medical Corporation, and the Latino Health Institute.

BLACK MEN'S HEALTH ALLIANCE

Originally Men of Color Against AIDS (MOCAA), financial difficulties resulted in a merger with the Multicultural AIDS Coalition (MAC) as the Black Men's Health Alliance. The organization is currently housed at the Harriet Tubman House on Columbus Avenue in the South End, but expects to have a permanent home, a full staff, and complete slate of programming by September 2004.

FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Fenway is internationally known for its work on HIV prevention, treatment, and research. It is a leader in women's health, particularly understanding of the unique needs of lesbians. Its alternative insemination program and family and parenting services for lesbians and gay men have helped empower the first generation of openly gay families. Likewise, its innovative acupuncture detoxification program has been widely studied and much imitated. Since its inception, Fenway advocated for gay/lesbian health care needs, and has served groups commonly vulnerable to discrimination.

• http://www.fenwayhealth.org/home_noflash.htm

RUAH, BREATH OF LIFE, INC.

This organization, created by Sr. Jeannette Normandin, provides not only a home, but companionship and compassion for women who are dying from AIDS. The group's mission statement reads: "We are a group of women who have established a home for homeless women living with AIDS. We call ourselves Ruah (meaning "breath of life" in Hebrew) to mark the life-affirming spirit of our mission. Our name is also a tribute to the many women with AIDS we know and have known, whose vitality, courage, and dignity continue to inspire us. We believe that the home we have created will be the center of a community that is mutually enriching for each of Ruah's residents, friends, neighbors, and for all who share our commitment. We will be there together however long the journey."

• http://www.hds.harvard.edu/oms/fielded/handbook_detail.cfm?CFConversion=164

Complementary and Alternative Healing

DANA-FARBER CANCER INSTITUTE – ZAKIM CENTER FOR INTEGRATED THERAPIES

BOSTON, MA

A place where leading cancer experts combine new approaches to cancer care with biomedical treatments, it offers massage therapy, acupuncture, nutritional guidance, among other services. Dana-Farber Zakim Center physicians, complementary therapists, nurses, and other caregivers are trained in both conventional and alternative cancer therapies. The website offers a range of educational and informational resources about complimentary approaches to healing from cancer.

• http://www.dana-farber.org/pat/support/zakim_default.asp

INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

CENTER FOR PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL CHANGE,
SOMERVILLE, MA

An organization of multidisciplinary professionals dedicated to the integration of spirituality and mental health treatment through community-based clinical and educational programs. Institute counselors help individuals to cope with stress and create healthier lives by applying spiritually grounded techniques to life's varied situations. This organization works in cooperation with Cambridge Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

• <http://www.centerchange.org/>

REIKI BIOFIELD MEDICINE

ANDOVER-NEWTON THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, CENTER FOR FAITH, HEALTH AND SPIRITUALITY, CAMBRIDGE MA

An Ancient Japanese medicinal art form that involves systems that use subtle energy fields in and around the body for medical purposes. It operates on the notion that vital energy exists in all people and things, and that from time to time these energy forces must be recalibrated and balanced as a means of preventing illness. Understood as a complementary modality of healing, Reiki is generally used as preventative health work and can be found in a variety of settings: wellness centers; yoga studios, and health clubs as well as spas of all sorts, schools and education centers, and seminaries.

At Andover-Newton Theological School, Reiki is sponsored as healing ministry under the guidance of Reiki practitioners from members of the school community. The Reiki Ministry extends its services to those who are ill or in special need in the community.

• <http://www.ants.edu/academics/fhs/center.htm#Reiki>

For background details and studies about Reiki in the Boston area, consult the website "Medical Research on Reiki": <http://www.reikimedresearch.com/>.

THE VIRGINIA THURSTON HEALING GARDEN

HARVARD, MA

A private, educational, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing counseling, complementary therapies, and educational programs for women with breast cancer and their partners and families, with no financial barriers. Programs are integrated with prescribed medical treatments for breast cancer. Therapists are seasoned professionals committed to providing services for people whose lives are challenged by breast cancer, regardless of insurance coverage or ability to pay. Located on acres of landscaped gardens with a large variety of flowering plants and trees, the Healing Garden is full of quiet meditative areas, sparkling fountains, and wind chimes; it is meant to provide a tranquil, healing place. Services provided include: Acupuncture, Counseling, Educational Workshops, Expressive Therapies of Art, Dance, and Writing, Gardening as Therapy, Meditation/Visualization/Self-Hypnosis, Nutritional Counseling, Therapeutic Massage/Polarity/Reiki/ Yoga.

• <http://healinggarden.net/index.html>

• Address: 145 Bolton Road, PO Box 145, Harvard MA 01451-0145; telephone 978-456-3532

Religious Congregations, Organizations, and Communities**OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE MINISTRY**

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON, BOSTON, MA

Offering support to the ministry of the women and men providing pastoral care to patients and their families/loved ones in health care facilities within the Archdiocese of Boston. The Office of Health Care Ministry also collaborates with parishes in their outreach to the homebound sick and aged, the dying, and nursing home residents. Activities offered include: information and referral services, publication of two newsletters (*Listen*, for chaplains, and *The Pastoral Visitor*, for parish pastoral visitation coordinators), a job bank and referral service, training and outreach programs for pastoral volunteers, educational gatherings, and the maintenance of a small library of pastoral care journals, tapes, and other materials.

• <http://www.rcab.org/healthcare/HomePage.html>

THE BLACK MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE OF GREATER BOSTON

The Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston (BMA) was founded in the early 1960s. It is an alliance of more than eighty churches and other faith-based and community-based organizations. The Alliance's mission is to provide spiritual sustenance for clergy, and advocacy and programmatic services for the greater black community. It convenes resources, collecting and redistributing funds and technical assistance to build the capacity and strengthen faith-based and community organizations.

• http://www.bmaboston.org/CC_Content_Page/o,,PTID323166/CHID664616/CIID,oo.html

A directory of black churches in Roxbury and Dorchester can be found at :

• <http://www.bmc.org/pediatrics/special/bhlp/pages/resources/localsites/churchindex.htm>.

BOSTON DIALOGUE FOUNDATION

The Boston Dialogue Foundation promotes dialogue between members of the Turkish community in the greater Boston area and members of other Boston religious and cultural communities. The Foundation believes dialogue to be central to civilized society, and has worked to build relationships of interfaith dialogue and friendship with other like-minded communities.

• <http://www.bostondialogue.org>

DRIKUNG MEDITATION CENTER

SOMERVILLE, MA

This Tibetan Buddhist center is dedicated to the study and practice of Buddhism as preserved in the Drikung Kagyu Lineage. It offers regular meditation practice, teachings, and talks about Tibetan Buddhism, as well as ritual healing ceremonies and celebrations of holidays and special events.

- <http://drikungboston.org/index.shtml>

EARTH DRUM COUNCIL

CONCORD, MA

Offering drumming and dancing events that utilize drumming as a tool for community-building, cultural awareness, personal growth, and health, Earth Drum Council strives to create a space where many different drumming and dance traditions can be experienced, respecting the integrity of each culture while acknowledging that all are related in the human heartbeat. Organizes weekly and monthly drumming and dancing events, retreats, classes, healing activities, and informational articles on the Earth Drum Council philosophy, as well as traditional drum and dance cultures.

- <http://www.earthdrum.com/>

EARTH SPIRIT

WILLIAMSBURG, MA

Nonprofit organization providing services to a nationwide network of Pagans and others following an Earth-centered spiritual path. Rooted in ancient European traditions which have as their core a respectful awareness of the sacredness of the Earth, Paganism teaches its followers to experience themselves and everything that exists as vital parts of the whole of Nature, understanding that all things in the universe interact in both a physical and spiritual relationship. EarthSpirit was founded with the goal of helping to create an active Pagan community in New England, and to help develop Pagan concepts and attitudes for living in the present age, to encourage communication and understanding among people of different traditions and ideologies, to provide opportunities for shared spiritual experience, and to help educate the general public concerning Earth-centered spirituality. Offers extensive Pagan/Wiccan events, healing rituals, and celebrations in and around the Boston area.

- <http://www.earthspirit.com/earthspirit.html>

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

BOSTON

Founded in the early 1870s in Boston by Mary Baker Eddy, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, has a

healing mission that embraces all humanity. This mission was published by Mary Baker Eddy in a central Christian Science work entitled *Science and Health*. An ongoing emphasis of the Church is to inspire members and other seekers to reexamine Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan and respond to their neighbors' needs around the globe. Christian Science churches can be found all over the world and offer worship services and healing activities, classes, talks and workshops, as well publications, guides, and publishing activities of all kinds (eg., the *Christian Science Monitor*).

- <http://www.tfccs.com/aboutchristianscience/>

GANESHE TEMPLE

DORCHESTER, MA

A small Hindu Temple established by Caribbean and South American Hindus who have immigrated to the Boston area. Meets for monthly puja and healing ritual celebrations as well as for major Hindu holidays.

- <http://www.pluralism.org/research/profiles/display.php?profile=69761>.

JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

GREATER BOSTON AREA

An organization established to help individuals and families of all ages through human service and health care programs that reflect Jewish values of social responsibility and concern for all members of the community. Care for the elderly consists of Medicare-certified Home Health Services for acute and chronic illness, recuperation, and rehabilitation; skilled nursing, rehabilitation therapies, medical social work, and home health aides; geriatric care management; guardianship; and geriatric mental health. For children and families, JFCS offers adoptions resources; developmental and therapeutic services for slow-developing children; family and child mental health support; support for children with disabilities and special needs. In recent years JFCS has developed a "Healing Connections" program that focuses on integrating Jewish rituals, values, and spirituality into health care contexts.

- <http://www.jfcsboston.org/index.cfm>

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICINE, PSYCHOLOGY, AND RELIGION (OCAMPR)

BROOKLINE, MA (REGIONAL OFFICE)

An association whose mission is to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and promote Christian fellowship among helping professionals in medicine, psychology, and religion. Members pursue an understanding of the whole person that integrates the basic

assumptions of medicine, psychology, and religion with the Orthodox Christian faith in educating and serving church and community. OCAMPR offers its members literature, conferences, and networking opportunities for Orthodox Christian medical personnel and religious leadership.

- <http://www.ocampr.org/index.asp>

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELLESLEY, MA

An 1,800-member church serving the residents of Wellesley, Natick, Dover, Sherborn, Needham, and other surrounding communities. This parish is a part of the Diocese of Massachusetts, comprising about two hundred congregations covering the eastern one-third of the state. It remains dedicated to the range of spiritual and wellness needs of parishioners and community affiliates and offers an extensive list of resources for physical, spiritual, and mental health on its website.

- <http://www.standrewswellesley.org/spiritresources.htm>

Many Episcopal churches in the Boston area offer health and healing services on a monthly, weekly, or annual basis. For a list of Episcopal churches in Massachusetts, consult the Episcopal Church website:

- <http://arc.episcopalchurch.org/webpages/p1.html#Massachusetts>.

BOSTON SUFI ORDER

JAMAICA PLAIN, MA

The Sufi Order of Boston, a local chapter of the Sufi Order International is an interfaith approach to spiritual growth, practice, and healing inspired by Islamic Sufism and the teachings of Sufi Order International founder, Hazrat Inayat Khan. Classes, worship services, dance and music celebrations, and healing order activities are offered regularly throughout the year all over the Boston area.

- Address: 83 Elm Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130; mailing address: PO Box 135, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130; telephone: 617-522-0800.

VINEYARD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

CAMBRIDGE, MA

A Christian community movement established in 1974 as a means of rejuvenating Christian worship and belief for “burned-out” Christians. Like many other Pentecostal and charismatic congregations, its mission and goal is to create worship spaces and rituals that bring the experience of God more directly into the lives of worshipers. Offers interactive, arts-inspired celebrations and worship as well as a range of health and healing gatherings and prayer sessions called Healing Room Ministry.

- <http://cambridgevineyard.org/offerings/pastoralCare/healingrooms.htm>

Religion, Health and Healing Initiative Database

Files Master List

(Last updated June 21, 2004)

The Religion, Health and Healing Initiative at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School collected data on religious healing in the greater Boston area from September 2000 until June 2004. This data consists of primary and supplementary materials that include fieldwork reports, interview transcripts, published papers, resource guides, pamphlets, contact lists, and site lists. These materials deal with a variety of healing modalities from specific religious, ethnic, and spiritual communities that are available to people in the Boston area, and in some instances include the scholarly treatment of these modalities.

The data has been organized into the RHHI Database and runs alphabetically. The list that follows is an account of each file as it is named and included in the database.

A

Acupuncture
African Healing and Healers
African Immigrant Churches
AIDS
Women's Alcoholic's Anonymous
Ayurveda

B

Baha'i – Notions of Suffering, Health and Healing
Baptist Healing Service
Black Churches – Domestic Violence
Buddhism: Buddhist Meditation
Buddhism – Health and Healing in a Chinese Community

C

Catholic – General
Irish Catholic – General
North End Italian Catholic
Trappist Fieldwork Project (Catholic)
Chiropractic – Dr. Steven Edmonds
Christian Science – General

D

Death and Dying
Druid

Episcopal

Bethany House of Prayer
Church of the Advent

Christ Church of Hamilton and Wenham
Episcopal Divinity School
Leadership Development Institute
Old North Christ Church
Parish Directory
Lynn Pierce, Christ Church, Interview
St. James Episcopal
St. John's the Evangelist Episcopal
St. John's Monastery – Brother John Mathis
St. Luke's and St. Margaret Episcopal
Order of St. Luke Interdenominational
St. Paul's, Natick
Cathedral Church of St. Paul
St. Stephen's
Trinity Church

G

Greek Orthodox - General

H

Hinduism – General
Hospital Chaplains
Hospital Chapels

Islam

Bawa Muhai Yadeen Fellowship (Islam)
Islam – Chaplaincy
Noor Kassmali – Islam and Biomedicine
Islam and Healing in Boston
“Honey, Hadiths and Health day: A spectrum of Healing in the Daily Life of Boston Muslims”
Imam Salih Yucel, Interview
Imam Taalib Mahdee, Interview
Islamic Center of Boston
Islamic Center of New England
Melinda Mott
Malik Suleman

J

Jewish – General

K

Korean – General

L

Lutheran – General

New Age

Acutonics

New Age Healing Brochures

Drumming and Dance

New Age Healing Schools, Programs, and Institutes

Healing Touch

Reen Carter,- Native American Healer, Interview

Original Tremont Tearoom

Plant Spirit Medicine, Blue Deer Center

New Age Publications

“Healing from sexual abuse from a healer’s perspective”

Whole Health Expo

P

Pagan – Boston Grove, Sarah Furho

Parish Nursing – General

Pentecostal – General

Vineyard Christian Fellowship (Pentecostal)

“Healthy Mind, Healthy Body: Traditional And Alternative Healing Practices in Contemporary Portuguese-Speaking Communities.”

Psychotherapeutic Approaches

Q

Quaker – General

R

Reiki – General

Rah Breath of Life

S

Seventh Day Adventist, Boston Temple

Spiritualism

Sufism – General

T

Taoism

Tibetan Community

U

Ukrainian Community

Unitarians

United Church of Christ – General

Universities in the Boston-Area with Health and Healing Curricula

V

Vietnamese Community

W

Wiccan

Additional Materials:

Healing Services and Sites Not Yet Researched – Future Considerations

RHHI Breast Cancer Study – Interview List and Master Contacts List

Religion Health and Healing Initiative Occasional Papers – Volumes 1,2,3:

Religious Healing in Boston: First Findings. Susan Sered and Linda Barnes, ed.s.
(Center for the Study of World Religions, 2001)

Religious Healing in Boston: Reports from The Field. Susan Sered, ed. (Center
for the Study of World Religions, 2002)

Religious Healing in Boston: Body, Spirit, Community. Susan Sered, ed. (Center
for the Study of World Religions, 2004)

Spiritual Tool Kit for Health and Well-Being, Healing Partners – A program of Jewish
Family Services of Metrowest

Religion, Health and Healing Breast Cancer Research Project

“The Many Meanings of Effectiveness: A Study of Healing Modalities Used by Women Treated for Breast Cancer”

Beginning in the Fall of 2002 through the Fall of 2003, Susan Sered and CSWR Fellow Barbara Portrata collaborated on a project whose goal was to shed light on how practitioners of a variety of modalities of complimentary and alternative medicine (CAM) define “efficacy” vis-à-vis their treatment of breast cancer patients. Using a qualitative research approach, the Religion, Health and Healing research team interviewed over forty Boston-area practitioners of various CAM modalities. Some of the practitioners were recommended to the study by women who underwent treatment for breast cancer and simultaneously used CAM modalities, and some were referred by other respected CAM practitioners who had considerable experience in treating breast cancer. Also consulted were hospital websites that recommend, or organize access to, CAM practitioners, as well as some organizations within the framework of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) that offer information and counsel on the diseases, suitable CAM modalities, and practitioners. In addition, relevant literature about the most frequently used CAM modalities for breast cancer were considered as well.

Included in the study were practitioners of Tai Chi (Qi-Kung), homeopathy, breath work, various nutrition approaches (vitamins, various nutrients, macrobiotics, herbalism), various body-work modalities (dance therapy, reflexology, rolfing massage, shiatsu, so tai and tui na massage, yoga), Ayurvedic medicine, Reiki, spirit mediumship and chakra balancing, and an invented modality of “healing from the body level up,” various psychotherapeutic approaches (Jewish, Hopi, Buddhist, Hindu, pastoral, dynamic psychotherapy), intuitive space design, and religious healing of several religious denominations (Unitarian Universalist Church, Temple Israel, Christian Science, Epiphany Church, Pentecostal Baptist Church), as well as various practitioners of acupuncture from the Chinese, Japanese and Korean traditions.

Printed below is a list of the practitioners who were interviewed.

Complimentary and Alternative Modality Practitioners Interviewed **~ Religion Health and Healing Breast Cancer Project ~** **2002-2003**

Interview Files:

- ❖ Ann Allegrini – Co-Founder Pathways Center for Cancer Support (see Gail Mitton File)
- ❖ Marilee Burrell – Reiki and energy-related therapies
- ❖ Rev. Gwendolyn Collins – African –American Congregational Healing
- ❖ Barbara Courtney – Clinical Therapist and Harmonist
- ❖ Bryn Durham – Reflexologist
- ❖ Genevieve Enyart – Herbalist
- ❖ Jamy Faust – Counseling Psychotherapy (The Hellinger Approach)
- ❖ Frederick Frank – Integrative Energy and Somatic Therapies
- ❖ Jillian Frank – Clinical Psychologist
- ❖ Randall Ferrell – Holistic Chiropractor
- ❖ Judith Groezinger – Zen Shiatsu Therapist
- ❖ Peggy Huddleston – Psychotherapist
- ❖ Diane Iviliano – Acupuncturist

- ❖ Eric Jacobson – Rolfer, Cranial-Sacral Therapist
- ❖ Tanner Johnsrud – *unknown – no listing on master list...*
- ❖ Byron Jordan – Polarity Therapist and Earth Medicine Practitioner
- ❖ Judith Joslow – Energy Medicine Healer and Social Worker
- ❖ Myung C. Kim – Acupuncturist
- ❖ Gayle Kirk – Healing facilitator
- ❖ Warren Kramer – Macrobiotics
- ❖ Deborah Lazinsky – Herbalist
- ❖ Begabati Lennihan – Homeopathy
- ❖ Loretta Levitz – Ayurveda
- ❖ Carrie Marsh – Holistic Spatial Design
- ❖ Marsha Metzger – Yoga, Danskinetics and Wellness Center
- ❖ Rev. Thomas Mikelson – Unitarian Universalist Spiritual Healing
- ❖ Ross Miller – Psychic Counselor
- ❖ Gail Mitton – Co-founder Pathways Center for Cancer Support
- ❖ Nigel Mumford – Episcopal Lay Healer
- ❖ Sudha Lundeen – Kripalu Yoga
- ❖ Ramel Rones – Qi Gong
- ❖ Stanley Selib – Psychoimmunologist, also Jewish/Hopi/Buddhist/Hindu Healer
- ❖ Judith Swack – mind-body-spirit therapist
- ❖ Tracy Walton – Muscular Therapist
- ❖ Ming Wu – Qi Gong, Tai Chi and Chinese Herbalist
- ❖ John Firdوسي Wyrick – Sufi Healer
- ❖ Rabbi Elaine Zecher – Temple Israel Boston Healing Services