

## Rabbi Ronald Weiss – Spiritual & Religious Care



Rabbi Weiss is the Director of Chaplaincy Services for the Jewish Community at Jewish Family & Child Service of Greater Toronto.

Jewish Family & Child Service has a longstanding relationship with North York General Hospital (NYGH). For the past 27 years, many members have provided spiritual and religious support to Jewish patients, residents, their families, and our staff. Member activities include rabbinic consultation and counseling, Holiday observances, educational presentations, religious services, and regular visitation.

Since 1994, Rabbi Weiss has held a courtesy appointment as the Jewish Chaplain in the Spiritual & Religious Care department at NYGH.

Rabbi Weiss is a friendly, familiar face at NYGH. He comes regularly to the hospital to visit and provide support to our patients and their families; and responds to urgent requests when needed.

Rabbi Weiss says, “During the Pandemic, like everyone else, Jewish Family & Child Service had to shift our services to being delivered remotely as much as possible. Making extensive use of the telephone and video-chat platforms, we have been able to continue to assist many patients and their families with Spiritual Care - albeit in a much reduced capacity and with the definite feeling that our support is less effective than if we were able to actually be by the bedside. As with most people-oriented activities, there is no substitute for direct, face-to-face, contact. This is the ‘gold standard’ in Chaplaincy and we hope to return to providing care in person as soon as it is safe to do so.”

Patients, residents, families, and staff are very grateful to Rabbi Weiss and members of the Jewish Family & Child Service for their nimbleness and ongoing commitment to our patients in the hospital and our residents at Seniors’ Health Centre.

Rabbi Weiss, thank you for ensuring that people come first in everything you do!

