

Rev. Dr. Brenda Alton
System Manager of Spiritual Care Services at UPMC Pinnacle



Rev. Dr. Brenda Alton serves as manager of Spiritual Care Services. She manages a staff of 12 and over 100 volunteers who serve patients, their families and friends, as well as employees throughout the eight UPMC Pinnacle campuses, the UPMC Pinnacle Hillman Cancer Center, the Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute, and UPMC Pinnacle's 10-county footprint. She also assisted in the establishment of the Bereavement Services Team, to provide care for families during end-of-life circumstances. Along with providing care for patients, Rev. Alton initiated the Code Lavender program to provide care to the staff.

Rev. Brenda leads UPMC Pinnacle's Faith Community Health Connection (FCHC) in which she works closely with ministry leaders from over 110 diverse houses of worship to bridge the gap in the community between faith and health. She is a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the Workforce Development subcommittee, the Ethics Committee, the Education subcommittee, Education, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee for the PA Psychiatric Institute, and most recently UPMC Pinnacle's Healthy Harrisburg initiative. When the FCHC identified a knowledge deficit in advanced care planning, Rev. Dr. Alton responded by developing community workshops in UPMC Pinnacle's five-county service area to address the need.

Rev. Alton serves on the Dauphin County/ Human and Social Services Task Force, Department of Health Covid-19 Health Equity Response Team, appointed by Governor Wolf to the Governor's Organ and Donation Advisory Committee, and a facilitator for new employees for Gift of Life, and a host of community boards.

Rev. Dr. Alton is an Ordained Minister. She holds Masters degrees in Christian Education and Divinity, a Doctorate in Ministry (with an emphasis in Community Building and Faith Community Initiatives), and is a Ph.D. candidate in Administration and Leadership Studies for Nonprofits and Public Sectors at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (2021). Rev. Alton serves as CEO (Chief Encouraging Officer) for BAM – Brenda Alton Ministries and her life's purpose is to live - not to be a legend but to leave a legacy.