12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.   Concurrent Session 2C

* The Sacred Art of the Death Vigil: Guiding Families Through the Journey of a Peaceful Transition for Their Child

*One and a half (1.5) hours for Social Work CEU has been approved for this session

How can one enhance compassionate care for a child at end of life? This question is challenging not only to families, but medical providers as well. This presentation highlights how the principles of family centered care help guide us in understanding the client and family’s story. It is only in understanding their journey that clinicians can effectively discuss goals of care and mindfully create a Peaceful Dying Plan.

Objective #1:
The learner will be able to discuss the benefits of utilizing a family centered care at end-of-life.

Objective #2:
The learner will be able to identify effective communication strategies that can be used to facilitate goals of care discussions.

Objective #3:
The learner will be able to describe essential elements of a Peaceful Dying Plan in a pediatric palliative care setting.

Presenters:

Marianne Muzic-Lucenti, LCSW, APHSW-C
St. Mary’s Hospital for Children
Palliative Care Program Manager

Marianne Muzic-Lucenti, LCSW, APHSW-C is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and the Palliative Care Program Manager at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children. Marianne’s career as a clinical social worker has focused on providing support to families with medically fragile and terminally ill children. Following completion of her graduate studies at Fordham University School of Social Services, Marianne worked at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx as the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Social Worker. She transitioned to St. Mary’s Hospital for Children in 2004, where she currently serves as Palliative Care Program Manager. She provides support to the patient, family, and interdisciplinary staff throughout a child’s disease trajectory, focusing on comfort management and quality of life. In addition, Marianne manages the Doula Volunteer Program and the Complementary Care Program. She is certified as a Grief Recovery Specialist and has most recently acquired certification as an Advanced Palliative Hospice Social Worker (APHSW-C). Marianne also serves as a member of the Children’s Advisory Committee for the Hospice and Palliative Care Association of New York State.

Peter Chu, MSW

Peter Chu, MSW is a recent graduate student from Fordham University’s Graduate School of Social Services. While at Fordham, Peter was a Palliative Care Fellow and completed his advanced year field placement at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children. While at St. Mary’s, Peter worked to support families whose children were medically fragile and chronically ill. Peter has become passionate about the field of palliative care and hopes to work in pediatric palliative care, where he will be able to support young patients and their families at such a crucial time in their lives.