



Biography

Linda Hochstetler, MSW, RSW

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Linda Hochstetler is a social worker and specialist in end of life issues related to illness, death, dying, and loss. She has a private practice at the Village Healing Centre in Roncesvalles. She helps individuals and families face their fears of death and help them talk openly about the many choices that one is faced with as illness and aging progresses. She combines clinical social work conversations with explanations of the healthcare system and referrals to appropriate healthcare options. She has provided workshops on the topics of Completing Advance Care Planning, Making Better End of Life Decisions, and Holding the Space for the public and at the Hospice Palliative Care Ontario Conference.

In addition to her private practice, she hosts Death Cafes and encourages everyone to talk more openly about their inevitable deaths. She is also a Buddhist Lay Chaplain and meditation teacher. She volunteers extensively, including experiences at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, the Kensington (residential) Hospice, and with the Awaken in Toronto meditation group. She has completed studies in Thanatology (the study of death) and Palliative Care, and is involved with the Buddhist Education Network of Ontario, which is setting up the first non-residential Buddhist Hospice in Canada.