



## FACULTY-IN-TRAINING PROGRAM

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

You are asked to provide a letter of support for a member of your division/department to the Faculty-in-Training (FIT) Program, a long-distance fellowship sponsored by the Academy of Communication in Healthcare. ACH is the professional home for all those who are committed to improving communication and relationships in healthcare. ACH promotes the teaching and delivery of “*relationship-centered care*.” This is an extension of patient-centered care, and it focuses on mutual trust and responsibility between both parties to accomplish therapeutic goals.

### **Program Content:**

Graduates of our program are competent in four core domains of advanced communication skills training, including: small group facilitation, coaching, workshop content and development, and personal awareness. Successful graduates of the FIT program find that this training greatly enhances their effectiveness at their home institutions.

### **Time Commitment:**

Our program is quite rigorous. Much of the learning occurs during the course of participants' daily work at their home institutions; we anticipate that they spend between 2 to 4 hours weekly in activities related to the program. In addition, participants are expected to attend two training courses yearly. Most participants complete the program in two to three years.

As part of your letter of support, we would appreciate the following specific information:

- 1 To what degree is your institution committed to developing teachers and researchers in relationship-centered care and psychosocial medicine?
- 2 To what degree does the candidate currently participate in institutional efforts in relationship-centered care and psychosocial medicine?
- 3 In what ways will the candidate play a role in future institutional efforts in relationship-centered care and psychosocial medicine?
- 4 To what degree will the candidate be supported by your institution during his/her training?

Thank you in advance for the time taken to write your letter. Your frank assessment of this candidate will contribute greatly to our training program.

Sincerely,

The FIT Program Co-Directors