



Alumni Profile

Daniel Lockwood

BA '10 Thanatology

Current Career

Organization: Wellspring Cancer Support Centre

Title: Director of Programming and Operations

Career Overview

In my role, I am responsible for all daily operations, the development, maintenance and creativity of new programming. My role also involves the management of volunteers and all community partnerships. Many people report to me within the organization so my role is mainly in leadership. I support people who are doing much of the work.

How has King's helped prepare you for your current work?

Having a degree in Thanatology has helped me as I work in cancer and care. My degree has helped me expand my understanding of the losses people face with their illness. I adopt many practices I learned at King's and disseminate that out to people in the organization so we can all provide a higher level of care.

We don't go around talking about death in our society. So coming and focusing for so long on content that is not socially prevalent allowed me to become comfortable with the questions that I ask. I've found that you can ask questions out of compassion to help someone, and not feel that it is too intrusive to ask. My Thanatology degree has given me a deeper understanding and confidence to do the work that I do. It has allowed me to talk openly about the losses that people face.

What advice do you have for students who are interested in entering your field?

I have such a strong belief in the core concepts of Thanatology. It doesn't just provide you with a skill set for a particular job, it provides you with a skill set for life. It's such a solid grounding that can be applied to any career path. Open communication, comfort with talking about issues, making connections, and understanding are such strong transferable skills.

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