

NEW YORK ZEN CENTER FOR CONTEMPLATIVE CARE
BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILES
ROBERT CHODO CAMPBELL
KOSHIN PALEY ELLISON

New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care was founded in 2007 by Robert Chodo Campbell and Koshin Paley Ellison to change the nature of caregiving through innovative and contemplative practice grounded in Zen. At NYZCCC the three pillars of compassion – care, study, practice – are inextricably linked to transform the way we meet illness, aging and death. It is the only organization in the country that organically integrates these essential elements of contemplative care.

Sensei Robert Chodo Campbell



As Co-Executive Director and Co-Founder of the New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care, Campbell is part of the core faculty for the Buddhist Track in the Master in Pastoral Care and Counseling at New York Theological Seminary, NYZCC's education partner. He teaches in the University of Arizona Medical School's Center for Integrative Medicine's Integrative Medicine Fellowship and directs the care program at NYZCCC. He has recently launched the Contemplative Care End-of-Life Doula Certificate study at NYZCCC. Chodo has over 20 years of care experience and has trained as a chaplain, a psychotherapist and Zen teacher and is widely recognized as a

skilled and compassionate caregiver. He has traveled extensively teaching in various institutions and has also borne witness to the suffering of HIV/AIDS patients in Zimbabwe and South Africa. His public programs and classes have introduced and inspired thousands to practice mindful and compassionate care of the living and dying. Chodo is a dynamic, earthy and visionary leader and teacher. Each year over 30,000 people listen to his podcasts and his passion lies in bereavement counseling and advocating for change in the way our healthcare institutions work with the dying. He began formally studying Zen in 1991 and is a Senior Soto Zen priest and Soto Zen Teacher in the White Plum Soto Zen Lineage.

Sensei Koshin Paley Ellison, MFA, LMSW, DMIN



As Co-Executive Director and Co-Founder of the New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care, Paley Ellison directs the education programs and is the academic advisor for students in the Master in Pastoral Care and Counseling. He has served as Co-Director of the Contemplative Care Services for the Department of Integrative Medicine and as the Chaplaincy Supervisor for the Pain and Palliative Care Department at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center where he also served on the Medical Ethics Committee. He is currently on the faculty of the University of Arizona Medical School's Center for Integrative Medicine's Integrative Medicine Fellowship and is a visiting professor at the McGovern Center for Humanities and Ethics at the University of Texas Health Science Center of Houston Medical School.

He has lectured and held contemplative

care trainings and retreats at leading institutions in the field of medical and contemplative practice, including Harvard Divinity School, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Union Theological Seminary, Naropa University, Omega Institute and many others. Koshin is also a popular keynote speaker at national conferences, most recently at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, Association of Clinical Pastoral Education and the Integrative Healthcare Symposium. His writings included co-authoring the chapter "Rituals and Resilience" in *Creating Spiritual and Psychological Resilience*, authoring the chapter "The Jeweled Net: What Dogen and the Avamtsamsaka Can Offer Us as Spiritual Caregivers" in the book *The Art of Contemplative Care: Pioneering Voices in Buddhist Chaplaincy and Pastoral Work*. Most recently he has co-edited *Awake at the Bedside: Contemplative Teachings on Palliative and End of Life Care*. Koshin is a dynamic, original and visionary leader and teacher. Each year more than 30,000 people listen to his podcasts. He received his clinical training at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Medical Center and the Jungian Psychoanalytic Association. He began formal Zen training in 1987 and is a senior Zen Monk and Soto Zen teacher in the White Plum Soto Zen Lineage and is an ACPE supervisor and Jungian psychotherapist.