

Joe Beck
Founder, Humanists of the Treasure Coast

After completing a year as a VISTA volunteer in one of Baltimore's most troubled neighborhoods, Joe Beck earned a master of social work degree in 1969 from the State University of NY at Buffalo. He initiated Employee Assistance Programs for private corporations, a Developmental Center and a Children's Psychiatric Hospital before retiring in 1994 as a NY licensed social worker.

He then began the Humanist Perspective cable access TV show, which aired in many states including Hawaii. He moved to Florida in 2009 and founded Humanists of the Treasure Coast, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization and is Florida's first Humanist Chaplain, certified as such by the Humanist Society.

He has provided support to secular patients, (humanists, atheists, agnostics,) at the West Palm Beach VA, Martin Memorial Health Care System, Port St. Lucie Medical Center, Lawnwood Regional Medical Center, Indian River Medical Center and the Indian River and Treasure Coast Hospices. He provides lectures on the need to provide the same level of recognition and support to secular patients as is provided to religious patients. His article "Secular Patients Graciously Accept Second Class Status" has been published in the Institute for Science and Human Values, Human Prospect Digest, Autumn 2015, Volume 5, Number 1.

