Chaplain Clementina Chéry is the founder, president, and CEO of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. The Peace Institute is a center of healing, teaching and learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss. Chaplain Chéry and her family founded the Peace Institute in 1994 after her 15-year-old son Louis D. Brown was murdered in the crossfire of a shootout.

With 25 years of experience as a Survivor serving families impacted by murder, Chaplain Chéry has developed the best practices in the field of homicide response. Her professional goal is to transform society’s response to homicide so that all families are treated with dignity and compassion, regardless of the circumstances. Her spiritual goal is to become a minister of God’s Peace that is rooted in love, unity, faith, hope, courage, justice and forgiveness. The Peace of God that surpasses human understanding.

Chaplain Chéry has extensive experience training public health professionals, law enforcement officials and faith leaders to better serve families impacted by murder and interrupt cycles of retaliatory violence. She has also trained doctors, social workers, psychologists, street workers, religious leaders, homicide detectives and other providers at city and state agencies, hospitals and community-based organizations.

Chaplain Chéry has worked closely with the Boston Police Department for decades, including working to establish a Family Resource Officer position on the Police Force to help the Department better serve families of homicide victims.

Her groundbreaking publications for families of murder victims and the providers who serve them include *“Always in My Heart: A Workbook for Grieving Children”* (2011) and the *Survivors Burial and Resource Guide* (2013). The *Survivors Burial and Resource Guide* is the only tool available that offers step-by-step guidance to families of murder victims so that they can lay their loved one to rest with respect and dignity while managing the crisis and chaos after a homicide happens. The Guide was also translated in Spanish and in Cantonese. Chaplain Chéry is also coauthor of an article entitled *“Homicide Survivors: Research and Practice Implications,”* which was published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine in 2005.

In an effort to share the Peace Institute’s expertise with fellow providers, foster collaboration between providers across Massachusetts and improve service coordination and delivery to families impacted by murder, Chaplain Chéry founded the Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims Providers Network. Also, the Social Innovation Forum in recognition of the Institute’s groundbreaking solutions to social problems selected Chaplain Chéry and the Peace Institute as 2016 Social Innovators.

Chaplain Chéry is using her platform as a Social Innovator to launch the Peace Institute’s Training, Technical Assistance and Consulting (TTAC). TTAC provides tools, training and consulting services to stakeholders across the country in the survivor-centered, trauma-informed, offender sensitive methodology that Chaplain Chéry developed. In 2017, Chaplain Chéry was one of just 12 non-profit leaders in the country to be named a Barr Foundation Fellow. The two-year fellowship was designed to advance three important goals: *recognize and support leadership*, *strengthen organizational cap*acity *and build civic* *leadership.*

Chaplain Chéry has received numerous awards and recognitions for her courageous leadership and tireless peacemaking work. Most recently, she was honored at a Signature Event: Honoring Black Women of Boston to highlight remarkable women. Chaplain Chéry was among the women who’s work will be stored at the Schlesinger Library of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study Harvard University, which will act as a repository to preserve her papers and legacy. In addition, she was named one of Boston’s 100 most influential leaders of color, she received the Impact Award by the Phillips Brooks House Association at Harvard University, and she was named Citizen of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers.

Chaplain Chéry holds honorary Doctorate Degrees from Regis College in Weston and Mount Ida College in Newton. She received an honorary Doctorate of Ministry from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts and was ordained as a senior chaplain with the International Fellowship of Chaplain, Inc. in 2012. She is currently working on earning her Bachelor's Degree in Biblical/Theological Studies and Christian Leadership through an online course through Global Exchange Christian University. Her greatest accomplishment is being the mother of Louis, Alexandra and Allen and the grandmother of her six-year-old grandson Alexander.