

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



We at Catholic Health International are fully aware of the extraordinary work and dedication of the employees of all of our facilities and ministries who care for citizens of our many communities and in particular the people who are poor and vulnerable in this time of challenge. Your heroic effort, smiles and voices comfort and provide a source of strength and support for those in need.

We know it is extremely difficult to come to work each day not knowing what you will be facing and having the strength to move forward as the Sisters did so many years ago. We also know that there is no date to finish this work and so we are all faced with trial, tribulation and uncertainty of what the future will bring or what the future will look like. Your commitment and dedication as health care workers and essential workers will make our future both safe and secure. We at Catholic Health International recognize your selfless work and offer you our prayers and support for brighter days ahead.

May God Bless each of you in this time of challenge.

R. Stewart,
President & CEO

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

CHI Board Meeting Dates:

June 2 - 3, 2020: Corporate Annual Meetings
June 10, 2020: Annual Meeting

CHI Strategic Planning

April 29 - May 1, 2020: Postponed

Catholic Health Alliance of Canada 2020 Conference

May 13 - 15, 2020: Cancelled

CHI Spring Leadership

May 13, 2020: Cancelled

CHI Catholic Health Formation Module 2 (English)

May 26 - 28, 2020: Postponed until Fall 2020
Accepting registrations for English and French programs for 2021 - see CHI website

CHANB Conference

Sep 17 - 18, 2020: Miramichi

CHAO Annual Conference

Oct 22 - 23, 2020: Toronto

CHI staff working remotely

Catholic Health International staff continue to work full time-remotely. Thanks to our technology support we are able to access our network and all electronic files from our home offices. We want you to know that we are here to serve you and support you in your work. Please feel free to contact by email:

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COVID-19 Information and Resources available on the CHI Website

As we all try and navigate these times during the pandemic CHI wants to remind you of a variety of different resources available on our website at www.catholichealthpartners.com. Included in these resources are links to our CHI Ethical Decision Making Framework, posters on handwashing and other COVID-19 fact sheets from the World Health Organization and the Government of Canada, articles on ethics and spirituality related to the pandemic and a variety of prayers, reflections and meditations. Please share this information with all those you think might benefit and should you have any resources you would like to share with the Catholic Health International community please forward them to David Levangie at dlevangie@chpci.com.

L'Accueil Sainte-Famille Celebrates 40 years: 1979 - 2019

L'Accueil Sainte-Famille, the shelter for abused women and children in Tracadie, New Brunswick recently celebrated its 40th Anniversary. The Centre has undergone many changes since its founding 1979 by the Religious Hospitallers of Saint Joseph.

In the late 1980's lay persons joined the staff and the Board of Directors. Government funding grants which began in 1989 did not provide sufficient funds to meet the needs of the Shelter. In 2001, the Sister Cecile Renault Foundation was created to provide additional funding for essential operations. Also in 2001, a children's program was added to break the Intergenerational cycle of violence. In 2004 the first lay director was hired to provide programming for women who did need accommodation. Emergency accommodation and a 24-hour hotline for survivors of sexual assault began in 2009. An affordable second stage housing program, Complexe de l'espoir, was opened to help women in the longer term to become independent.



Nadia Losier, the Executive Director of L'Accueil Sainte-Famille and Complexe de l'espoir noted that "people often comment that it's not nice that we are busy...my only answer to that is, on the contrary, at least the women who consult us, have a chance to get out. So it is fortunate that we are busy, that means that they come for the services, they are looking for help, they want to get out, we have chance to save them."

Since 1979 L'Accueil Sainte-Famille has cared for 4,894 people, including 2,505 women, 2,345 children and 44 men with more than double that number in their many non-residential services. The need continues as it is expected that 2019-2020 will see the highest occupancy rate ever.

Pictured above are some of the people who attended the celebration on November 14th, 2019 which included Religious Hospitallers of Saint Joseph, L'Accueil's community partners, members of the community and present and former employees and members of the Board of Directors.

Hotel Dieu Shaver Receives \$1.15 Million as Part of Government's Investment in Hospital Infrastructure

In December, Ontario Member of the Provincial Parliament Sam Oosterhoff of the Niagara West riding was proud to announce that Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre will receive over \$1.15 million of a government investment of \$175 million to help hospitals across Ontario maintain infrastructure to ensure safe and comfortable environments for patients, their families, medical professionals and administrators.

Lynne Pay, Interim CEO of Hotel Dieu Shaver, states "We are heartened by this government's recognition of the integral role rehabilitation serves in reducing hallway medicine – helping to keep our Niagara residents out of emergency departments or long term care and returning them to the highest quality of life possible. This funding will go a long way in helping our staff and physicians continue to do the important work that is needed by so many." As a regional hospital, Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre provides comfort, care and hope to 400,000 Niagara residents through rehabilitation, complex care and geriatric programs. Congratulations.



Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare Staff brave the Coldest Night of the Year

Whenever possible, the staff at Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare go above and beyond to help achieve the vision of cultivating a healthier community.

Made up of staff and their family members - the HDGH Heart Warmers - braved the elements during the annual Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) fundraising event. CNOY aims to bring awareness to homelessness throughout our country, while collecting funds for local organizations. In Windsor, CNOY is organized by and benefits the Downtown Mission.

The HDGH team walked the streets of Windsor to get a taste of homelessness on February 22nd. The team would like to express their gratitude to everyone who took part or made a donation to their cause, helping them raise \$1,000 for local programming! CNOY Windsor raised nearly \$60,000 at the 2020 event.

Hôtel-Dieu Grace Healthcare is proud to have participated in CNOY each year that it has taken place in Windsor. Over the past seven years, they have raised over \$13,000.

Adapted from the March 3rd edition of E-Connect, the HDGH newsletter



"Say Little, Do Much"

**The Story of Women Religious
in Health Care in Canada**

Say Little, Do Much - The Story of Women Religious in Health Care in Canada is a 55-minute documentary celebrating the role of Roman Catholic Women Religious in health care in Canada from 1639 to today. It is a production of Kevin Moynihan, KM Productions, Halifax Nova Scotia in 2020. The film is a story of bravery and vision on the part of women religious from Canada, members of some 50 congregations of women who for almost 400 years built and managed a caring, competent and not for profit system of hospitals, and long term care facilities. In total 278 hospitals and 143 long term care facilities were built across Canada in this period. These 50 congregations of women religious built a healthcare system that provided access to primary and long term care for all who came to the doors of these facilities based on the values of the social gospel. It can be viewed at:

www.kmproductions.ca/say-little-do-much



Prayer for
a Time of
Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who
must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools
close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic
market remember those who have no margin at all

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each
other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbors. Amen.

Cameron Bellm, www.ccvic Chapel.org/post/prayer-for-a-pandemic-cameron-bellm

THE TORCH

Torch is a monthly publication of Catholic Health International. We are always looking for articles that exemplify the mission of our CHI facilities. Please forward any items you think would be of interest to our readers to David Levangie, Vice President Communications / Professional Development at dlevangie@chpci.com

CHI Policy Review

A review of all policies are underway at Catholic Health International, to ensure that our policies are consistent and effective and up to date with regulations, by laws and technology. Updated policies will be submitted to the Board for review and approval at Annual Meeting of Catholic Health International in June. A copy of the updated policies will then be posted on the Members section of our website.

