

# Catholic Eldercare – A Life-Giving Experience

## User Guide

Here are some ways that *Catholic Eldercare – A Life Giving Experience* might be helpful to your organization, whether it be a nursing facility, home-care agency, rehabilitation facility, day care, continuing care retirement centers or senior housing program.

- It could be used in recruiting new board members, management personnel and other employees:
  - Provide it to the candidates in advance.
  - Discussing it with them in an interview may reveal whether they are a good “mission fit.”
- It might be used as a reflection piece for a board meeting:
  - Provide the document to all board members in advance of the meeting.
  - Read some excerpt particularly pertinent to your organization to open the reflection and invite board members to participate in a 10-minute reflective discussion.
- It could be shared with benefactors to acquaint them with the vision and values of Catholic eldercare:
  - Providing it in advance of a meeting might facilitate and lend substance to the discussion
- There are multiple ways it might be used with eldercare employees:
  - During orientation, along with the information about the organization’s mission, values and philosophy.
  - Supervisors may select some section of it for their staff to read and talk about briefly in a department meeting.
    - Inviting staff to identify ways they currently are life-giving to residents and one another, as well as other ways they might be such.
    - Management might read and reflect on the document using it as an opportunity to evaluate pertinent dimensions of their organization such as relationship among staff, genuine inclusion of CNAs in the care team and plans and family – facility communication and relations.
  - Pertinent dimensions of resident care such as transitioning to and from acute care, teamwork, end-of-life care, pain management and chronic care.
- It could be used with the resident/family council in any of the above ways mentioned.