

*Presented by*  
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## **Suggestions for Theological Reflection and Formation Study**

The following process is offered as an outline for discussion of the video “Called to Serve: Guided by Tradition.” It provides suggestions for reflection and discussion on the challenges of international outreach. It is designed to be adapted to the needs of small or large groups such as boards, sponsors, executive leaders and formation groups, but is also relevant for all associates—especially those who are interested or have participated in international outreach. Too, it will be useful in orientation.

1. Provide the group with the “Shared Statement of Identity For the Catholic Health Association.” Ask someone to read aloud the second paragraph of the statement, beginning with “We work to bring alive ... “. Invite responses to the following question:
  - Think of a personal experience you have had in promoting health and delivering health care with “special attention to our neighbors who are poor, underserved, and most vulnerable.” Did that experience help to bring about change for others? Did the experience bring about change in you? (perhaps ask them if so, how?)

2. Show the video (approximately 12 minutes). Read this lead-in to the video:

*In this video titled “Called to Serve: Guided by Tradition,” Sr. Mary Haddad, Senior Director of Sponsor Services at the Catholic Health Association, speaks about the theological and historical roots of international outreach by Catholic health care ministries. She provides a bit of guidance on ensuring cultural competence and how to serve as a partners in this work. As you watch and listen, consider how our tradition of service naturally leads to international outreach.*

3. After the video, ask the group to think about and discuss the questions that are raised at the end. If it is a large group, you may assign the questions to different tables for discussion.
  - What of our tradition most resonates with your call to serve those on the margin of society?
  - How are you being called to advance the work of caring for those beyond our borders?

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4. The following question is provided as an option for further discussion:
- How can we assure that dignity, respect and mutual cooperation are built into our international outreach efforts?

## ***A Shared Statement of Identity for the Catholic Health Ministry***

We are the people of Catholic health care, a ministry of the church continuing Jesus' mission of love and healing today. As provider, employer, advocate, citizen—bringing together people of diverse faiths and backgrounds—our ministry is an enduring sign of health care rooted in our belief that every person is a treasure, every life a sacred gift, every human being a unity of body, mind, and spirit.

We work to bring alive the Gospel vision of justice and peace. We answer God's call to foster healing, act with compassion, and promote wellness for all persons and communities, with special attention to our neighbors who are poor, underserved, and most vulnerable. By our service, we strive to transform hurt into hope.

As the church's ministry of health care, we commit to:

- Promote and Defend Human Dignity
- Attend to the Whole Person
- Care for Poor and Vulnerable Persons
- Promote the Common Good
- Act on Behalf of Justice
- Steward Resources
- Act in Communion with the Church

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