Catholic Health Association of the United States
A Passionate Voice for Compassionate Care
CHA IS

A PASSIONATE VOICE
for Jesus’ mission of love and healing

A VALUABLE RESOURCE
for information, services and programs

A VIBRANT COMMUNITY
of members joined in a shared mission
The Catholic health ministry in the United States is an important, integral part of this nation’s health care system. In communities across the country, Catholic hospitals, clinics, long-term care and other facilities are caring for people of all ages, from conception to natural death, providing advanced, quality medicine and a broad range of programs and services that are restoring and sustaining health and life. Every day, one in six hospitalized patients in America is cared for in a Catholic hospital.

These Catholic health care organizations are motivated by faith in the healing mission begun by Jesus. This mission reveals a vision of healing that goes beyond medical care to meet the holistic needs of people, families and communities, always respecting the dignity of each human person. And so, Catholic health care providers are working to address problems of chronic illness, poverty, homelessness, environmental degradation, inner city decay, and much more.

These organizations are active contributors to the life and health of their local communities. And at the national level, they raise their collective voice by joining together in the Catholic Health Association of the United States. In this voluntary membership association, representing ministry organizations in every state in the Union, they share ideas, strengthen their identities as ministries of the Catholic Church, and call for justice in health care for all. In CHA, theirs is a passionate voice for compassionate care.

Sr. Carol Keehan, DC
President and Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Health Association of the United States
As the passionate voice of the Catholic health ministry in the United States, the Catholic Health Association advocates with Congress, the Administration, federal agencies, and influential policy organizations to ensure that the nation’s health system provides quality, affordable care across the continuum of health care delivery.

**CHA is recognized nationally as a leader in community benefit planning and reporting.** In collaboration with member hospitals and health systems, CHA developed the first uniform standards for community benefit reporting by non-profit groups. Association members worked closely with congressional leaders and the Internal Revenue Service to develop the guidelines, which have been widely adopted by other tax-exempt groups across the country. The association also worked closely with the IRS in the development of the Form 990, Schedule H for hospitals.

For decades, CHA has been a tireless advocate for a health care system that works for everyone. Association members and staff regularly meet with legislators and government officials to bring about meaningful improvements in health care that protect life from conception to natural death and effectively address the issues of cost, coverage and access. Passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in 2010 made great strides in expanding access to health care services for millions of Americans. Much work remains to ensure that all people have access to basic health care through a sensible and affordable system.

CHA will continue to work closely with federal and state health agencies, partner organizations and the church to ensure that health policies and regulations are consistent with Gospel values and ethical principles. CHA also collaborates with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on additional critical issues such as immigration, human trafficking, diversity and international outreach.

**CHA raises the ministry’s collective voice calling for access to health care for all persons, focusing special attention on vulnerable populations who are unable to speak for themselves.**
OUR VISION
Developed with extensive input from CHA members, these publications express the ministry’s fundamental values and guiding principles for creating a just health care system.

WASHINGTON UPDATE
This weekly online newsletter briefs advocacy leaders and others in the ministry about timely legislative and regulatory developments.

E-ADVOCACY
The e-Advocacy web-based tool allows members to communicate directly with policy makers on key issues for Catholic health care through access to advocacy letters and speaking points that can be customized for local use.

CATHOLIC LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY CONFERENCE
Advocacy leaders and executives join together at this annual conference in Washington, DC, to hear from top policy experts in the Administration and Congress and to meet with senators, representatives and legislative staffs.
CHA offers a wealth of resources to help canonical sponsors, board members, senior leaders, mission leaders and other ministry executives navigate today’s challenging environment and maintain the Catholic identity of these health systems and facilities.

The association’s staff of experts serves member organizations through consultation, education and presentations on topics of sponsorship, ethics, mission integration, advocacy, leadership formation, and more.

CHA offers a portfolio of in-person events throughout the year for education, networking and sharing best practices. Among these programs are: “Foundations of Catholic Health Care Leadership,” (also offered as an online distance learning program), an introduction to ministry concepts for new leaders; the Theology and Ethics Colloquium, Sponsorship Institute, Physician Leader Forum, and a week-long ecclesiology and spiritual renewal event for leaders that is held in Rome.

CHA’s extensive webinar offerings provide a convenient, affordable way for members to learn about timely issues and trends and to advance their professional development.

Many CHA meetings, webinars and programs offer continuing education credit to advance member education and professional development. CHA programs have been approved for CEUs through the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), the National Association of Boards and Examiners of Long-term Care Administrators (NAB), the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC), and the Missouri Nurses Association (MONA).
ALWAYS WITH US AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL TRADITION CD RESOURCES

Designed to promote education about the ministry’s commitment to justice and care for the poor, these interactive educational resources feature videos, case studies and facilitator guides for individual or group learning.

A GUIDE FOR PLANNING AND REPORTING COMMUNITY BENEFIT

This influential publication is widely used throughout health care and the non-profit sector.

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC JURIDIC PERSONS IN THE CATHOLIC HEALTH MINISTRY

This updated and expanded guide addresses changes in sponsorship structures and assists sponsors and those in management to understand the canonical responsibility of sponsors for a ministry of the Catholic Church.

GETTING STARTED IN INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

This booklet and accompanying online resources offer advice and sample practices from across Catholic health care organizations, Catholic Relief Services and the World Health Organization for starting or expanding international outreach initiatives.
As a community united in a shared mission, CHA members exchange ideas and best practices, come together at meetings and events, and participate in a variety of ministry-wide initiatives. These experiences inspire and renew a vibrant spirit of fellowship to accomplish together what member organizations cannot do on their own.

The association benefits from the insights and experiences of people across Catholic health care who serve on advisory committees and special task forces. They represent a breadth of roles critical to the identity and effectiveness of the health ministry: mission leaders, sponsors, advocacy leaders, ethicists and theologians, as well as governance and management leaders. Also, many leaders from ministry organizations serve the association on its Board of Trustees, providing faithful governance and stewardship of the Catholic Health Association.

Assembly

The annual Catholic Health Assembly is the premier gathering of Catholic health care leaders in the United States. This two-and-one-half day convention brings leaders from across the ministry together for learning, networking, celebration and renewal. Keynote speakers feature prominent voices from health care, academia, media, public policy and philanthropy.

Board members contribute their expertise to the governance and stewardship of CHA. Shown above are Richard Vath, MD, vice president, medical affairs, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center; Deborah A. Proctor, president/CEO, St. Joseph Health; and Most Reverend Robert N. Lynch, DD, Bishop of St. Petersburg.

Leaders throughout Catholic health care gather to learn and network at CHA’s annual Assembly.
CHA PUBLICATIONS
Health Progress, Catholic Health World, Washington Update and Health Care Ethics USA—keep people in ministry organizations connected and informed about strategic developments and emerging trends in the ministry and the ever-changing world of health care.

CHAUSA.ORG
CHA's website—chausa.org—is a source of news, information and resources for the ministry and the public. In addition, members enjoy exclusive, premium access to information about strategic areas of ethics, mission, sponsorship, health reform, advocacy, community benefit and international outreach. Members may also register for events, order CDs, publications and other materials through the online store, and participate in member-only, online learning modules.
CHA serves to support and strengthen the Catholic health ministry in the United States.

Catholic health care is a ministry of the Catholic Church continuing Jesus’ mission of love and healing in the world today. Guided by the Gospel and the moral teachings of the church, the ministry provides quality, compassionate care to people of all ages, races, religious beliefs and backgrounds with special attention to the poor, vulnerable and neglected.

TRADITION OF CARING
Catholic health care has a rich history in America. A small group of French Ursuline sisters arrived in New Orleans in 1727 and began nursing to those in need. They also taught classes to African American and Native American women and girls and cared for orphans. Seven years later, their hospital opened, the first in America. Soon, sisters from additional religious congregations followed, starting hospitals and clinics in cities, towns, frontier outposts and rural communities across the country.

Today, Catholic health care organizations continue the missions of their founding congregations with dedicated lay men and women who have joined members of sponsoring religious communities in delivering compassionate care to God’s people in need.
CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE TODAY
✦ Representing more than 600 hospitals and 1,400 long-term care and other facilities in all 50 states, Catholic health care is the largest group of non-profit health providers in the U.S.

✦ One in six patients in the United States is cared for in a Catholic hospital each year.

✦ More than 5.5 million patients were admitted to Catholic hospitals during a one-year period.

✦ Services provided in the continuum of care include: Acute care, sub acute care, skilled nursing, home health, adult day care/assisted living/residential care and hospice.

✦ Catholic hospitals employ more than 750,000 associates.

LOCATION OF CATHOLIC HOSPITALS
Almost a third of Catholic hospitals are located in rural areas. These facilities face unique challenges such as amplified recruiting and funding concerns.

LOCATION OF CATHOLIC CONTINUING CARE MINISTRIES
Catholic facilities also provide continuing care services in rural areas.

* Metropolitan Statistical Areas as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. Source: The Catholic Health Association of the United States (January 2012).

For more information about the people and services of CHA, we invite you to visit www.chausa.org
You may also contact CHA’s Washington, DC office at 202-296-3993 or the St. Louis office at 314-427-2500.
THE 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