

THE CHANGING FACE OF LONG-TERM CARE

**BY SR. MARY CARITAS GEARY, SP,
AND JULIE TROCCHIO**

Sr. Geary is advocacy coordinator, Sisters of Providence, Holyoke, MA, and chair of the Continuum of Care and Aging Committee at the Catholic Health Association, St. Louis. Ms. Trocchio is director of Long-Term Care, Catholic Health Association, St. Louis. Ms. Trocchio served as guest editor for this special section.

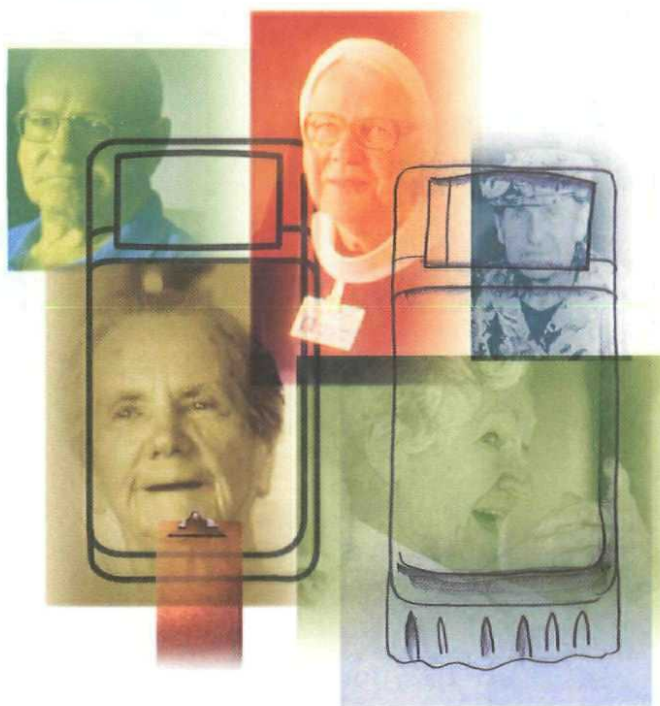
AT CERTAIN TIMES in the history of our health care ministry, we have been called to meet profound needs in our communities. At this moment, and as we move forward, we are called to respond to the needs of an aging population.

This call has a demographic imperative hurtling toward us like a locomotive. Over the next three decades, the number of people older than 85 years is expected to triple.

This call also has a mission imperative. We respect life at every stage of development; we are called to support the dignity of individuals in their last years of life, when their dignity is most fragile. We believe that health means wholeness and that this holistic view of the spiritual, physical, and emotional being—with health, shelter, and social needs—is most important in the later years of life.

We are the right people to meet this challenge. Catholic health care has a ministry rich in a tradition of compassion, innovation, collaboration, and excellence. We will need all these gifts as we respond to this population's needs.

This issue of *Health Progress* is intended to help our governance, executive, and staff leaders come to grips with critical issues related to caring for an aging nation. From staffing to financing, redesigning a care system for a predominantly chronically ill population, to advocating public policy, this issue offers concrete suggestions for dealing with many of the challenges facing us as we answer the call to care for God's oldest children.



40 Long-Term Care Financing and the Need for a Functional National Approach

by David Durenberger and Dale Thompson

43 The View From AAHSA

an interview with William L. "Larry" Minnix, DMin

48 The Prescription for Long-Term Care

by Lisa M. Shulman, MD

52 A Ministry of Presence

a profile of St. Peter Villa

56 Resident-Centered Care

by Marianne Osborn Gould, RN, BSN

59 Agency-Free at Last!

by Brian E. Forscher, PhD; Jamie J. Houseman; Beth A. Luken; & Timothy C. Dressman

61 Finding and Keeping Staff

by Steven L. Dawson, Christine Rico, & Julie Trocchio

JOURNAL OF THE CATHOLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

www.chausa.org

HEALTH PROGRESS®

Reprinted from *Health Progress*, November-December 2001
Copyright © 2001 by The Catholic Health Association of the United States
