

For Immediate Release April 20, 2020 Contact: Brian Reardon breardon@chausa.org

## CHA Urges Administration and Congress to Provide Continued Critical Financial Support

Statement by Sr. Mary Haddad, RSM, President and CEO, Catholic Health Association of the United States

"The mission of Catholic health care to extend God's healing love to every person remains strong as our hospitals, long-term care facilities and providers operate under extremely difficult conditions. While our members are showing amazing ingenuity and resilience in responding to this pandemic, many are struggling financially as they focus on caring for their communities and COVID-19 patients.

"CHA hospital members report that expenses have increased significantly due to critical investments in supplies, equipment, care sites and staffing, while also experiencing a more than 30 percent drop in monthly revenue resulting from canceled elective surgical procedures, outpatient treatments and specialty and primary care clinic visits. Some of our individual hospitals are experiencing losses upwards of \$1 million to \$2 million day, while some of our health systems are reporting revenue losses in the range of \$200 - \$600 million per month.

"Within this context, it is critically important that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services immediately expedite the distribution of the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to support all the health care providers on the frontlines of this pandemic. While releasing this funding is an important step, there continues to be a critical need for additional financial support to ensure hospitals can survive the financial pressures they are facing. We urge Congress and the White House to work together to secure additional direct financial support to keep hospitals operating and able to meet the health care needs of our communities.

"We are grateful that our elected officials have come together in a bi-partisan fashion to support our hospitals and all the health care heroes who are bravely caring for patients. CHA members recognize the enormous task before us and remain committed to doing all we can to help our nation through this crisis."

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The Catholic Health Association of the United States is the national leadership organization of the Catholic health ministry, representing the largest nonprofit provider of health care services in the nation.

- 1 in 7 patients in the U.S. is cared for in a Catholic hospital each day.
- Catholic health care, which includes more than 2,200 hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, systems, sponsors, and related organizations, serves the full continuum of health care across our nation.