



**Our Mission at Catholic Health International is to ensure the presence of Catholic values in our Corporations.**

## **Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Saint John** Continued from the June edition...

Little did the Sisters know when they responded to the plea in 1906 to come to Saskatchewan to help with the British orphans, that this would be a turning point for them. Saskatchewan turned out to be a gateway for the rest of Western Canada as well as the Sisters entry into healthcare. Their migration and mission work responded to the pressing needs of a growing population that was expanding westward. In 1929 the Sisters of Charity were asked to venture to Vancouver, BC to open a school and a Mercy Home for unwed mothers. Their success in establishing hospitals in Prince Albert, Saint John and Radway preceded them, so it wasn't long before they were asked to open a Catholic hospital in Vancouver as well. They purchased the land, oversaw construction and opened St. Vincent's Hospital.

During the time that the Sisters were busy opening schools, convents and hospitals out west, back east in Saint John, the demand for a Catholic hospital in their founding city became so great that in 1911 the Sisters purchased a property for the hospital, converted existing buildings into administrative offices and construction began.



*the St. John Infirmary opened in 1914.*

In 1914 the 60 bed Saint John Infirmary admitted its first patient. The following year, the School of Nursing commenced enrollment. Demand for health care grew and so did the hospital. In 1924 the facility known today as St. Joseph's Hospital expanded, nearly doubling its capacity. Considered advanced for its time, the operating room was constructed on the top floor, well away from the dirt and dust of the street. Vertical windows and skylights provided the surgeons with northern light, as it was several decades before artificial lighting was installed.

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All the while, the Sisters continued to focus on the social needs in Saint John. They opened St. Vincent's Infants Home in 1915 in Saint John, which was a home that provided boarding for unwed mothers, where babies could be left to be cared for by the Sisters, until they were old enough to go to the Catholic orphanage for adoption. They continued to operate the Mater Misericordiae Nursing Home which had originally been opened in 1888. All the while, the Sisters maintained an important role in the evolving education system in New Brunswick. They endeavored to have their teaching Sisters licensed and sent many to university to obtain basic degrees and even doctorates. These exceptionally qualified women operated two high schools and taught hundreds of elementary school children in Saint John, and often ventured to remote areas of the province where no public schools existed. To Be Continued.....

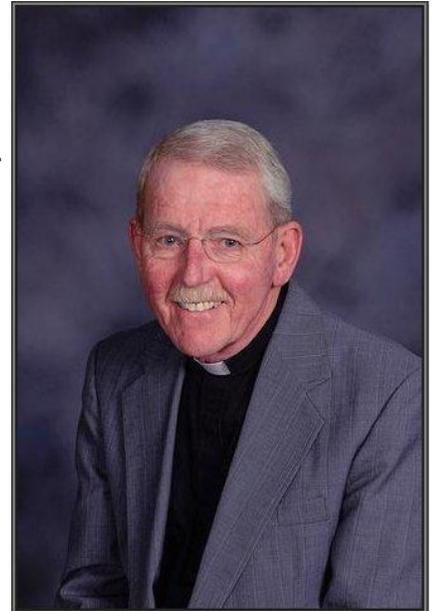
**The Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception of Saint John are one of the founding partners of Catholic Health International.**

## **Father David J. Lewis**

It is with sadness that we announce the death of an old friend and long time supporter of our New London Wisconsin facilities. Father David Lewis was diagnosed with stomach cancer April 25th and passed to eternal life June 9th, 2012.

He had served on the Board of Directors and on the Ethics Committees for St. Joseph Residence and the Washington Center since 2001.

Father Lewis was also President (Chair) of St. Joseph Residence for many years. Annually he led a memorial service for deceased residents and was very much loved by all within the community. Please join us in remembrance for a wonderful man and long time supporter of our mission in New London and area.



## **VOLUNTEER EXCELLENCE AWARD**

The Board of Directors of Catholic Health International recently approved a new "Volunteer Excellence Award" to be presented annually to an outstanding volunteer from each of our facilities. The process for the selection of the recipient is being developed and will be announced in the Fall of this year. We expect to make the Award at the facility during Volunteer Appreciation Week in April of each year. Details will be made available shortly.

## **2013 JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL— PLENARY SESSION**

Held every two years, this conference includes the CEO/ Executive Director/Facility Manager and Board Chair from each of our sponsored facilities.

Scheduled for the 4th and 5th of April 2013, at the Fairmont—Queen Elizabeth in Montreal, speakers include:

- † Sister Elizabeth Davis, RSM, Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy, St. John's, NL
- † Sister Mary Haddad, RSM, Sister of Mercy of the South Central Community, Director of Sponsor Services at CHAUS
- † Rev. Francis Morrissey, Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Professor of canon law

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[www.catholichealthpartners.com](http://www.catholichealthpartners.com) under Library

### Affordable Care Act

The need for health reform and the provision of an affordable healthcare system in the United States has finally been addressed through the **Affordable Care Act**, the bulk of which will be delivered through Medicare and employer provided coverage. While the Act and the associated laws are far from perfect, it is expected to expand private and public health insurance coverage at an affordable price to 32 million of the 50 million uninsured people in the United States. As faith based providers of healthcare, with a mission rooted in social justice, compassion and a legacy built on reaching out to care for the sick, the poor and most vulnerable, we have seen firsthand the physical and emotional suffering of those without access to health care.

Part of the mandated coverage is the provision of all FDA approved products and services. Starting in August, this includes contraception, which will be treated like any other prescription under the Act and will be available without copays or deductibles. The Act also provides access to cancer screenings without copays and guaranteed direct access to OB-GYN providers without referrals. Apparently more than 45 million women have already received coverage for preventive health screenings like mammograms and Pap tests—at no cost since August 2010 due to the **Affordable Care Act**.

The Act exempts Churches from providing this coverage to its employees, but faith based healthcare facilities and schools are not exempt. The Catholic Health Association in the United States posts their view and links to additional information on their web site at [www.chausa.org](http://www.chausa.org)

### CHAC 2012 Annual Report—Working with partners to improve palliative care in Canada

For over 10 years the Catholic health ministry has been a partner in a coalition of 39 national health organizations working to improve access to quality palliative care throughout the nation. Recently, after many years of advocacy, the federal government has agreed to partner with the coalition, and with the provincial governments, in a 3-year program aimed at the implementation of community-integrated palliative care. The goal is to develop strategies to better integrate palliative care into the health care system across the various settings of care: hospital; home; hospice; long-term care, etc. The project will also be attentive to those who die in other settings, such as shelters, prisons or group homes, and especially the homeless. To view the entire Annual Report [www.catholichealthpartners.com](http://www.catholichealthpartners.com)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

##### CHI Board and Corporation meetings for 2012:

September 12, November 14, December 12

##### Joint Leadership Council—Central & Atlantic:

September 20 & 21, 2012

Hosted by St. Joseph's Continuing Care Centre

NAV Centre—Cornwall, ON

##### CHI Alumni Association

(graduates of Catholic Healthcare Leadership Programs)

October 3, 2012—Rodd Inn, Miramichi, NB

##### Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick

October 4 & 5, 2012—Rodd Inn, Miramichi, NB

##### Catholic Healthcare Leadership Program (French) Module 2:

October 17—19, 2012

RHSJ Regional House in Bathurst NB

##### CHI Joint Leadership Council—Plenary Session:

April 4 & 5 2013 Fairmont—Queen Elizabeth Montreal

### Catholic Health Association of Ontario Annual Convention—Trustee / Director Workshop

For Catholic health care to survive and thrive into the future, it must count on lay leaders to understand and be committed to the foundational underpinnings of the Catholic health ministry. It is essential that lay leaders in the Catholic system appreciate the history and culture of the Catholic system, the underlying gospel values upon which the system has evolved and the ethical and theological foundations of the health care ministry. In doing so, lay leaders will be in a position to promote with confidence the inherent importance of Catholic health care as an essential pillar of a strong health care system.

The following seminar for Trustees and Directors registered for the Catholic Health Association of Ontario Annual Convention will be offered free of charge immediately prior to the Convention on October 10th 2012

Co-sponsored by:

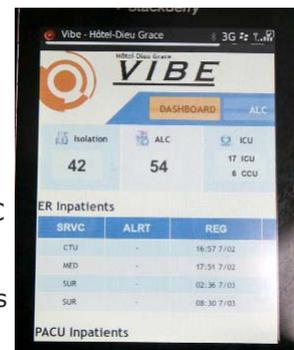
#### Catholic Health Association of Ontario Catholic Health International

- ◇ Key Issues in Governance:  
Ron Marr, President CHAO  
Robert Stewart, President CHI
- ◇ Governance and the Mission of Trustee Leadership  
Gordon Self, Covenant Health Edmonton
- ◇ Value Added Obligations of Trustees of Catholic Health Care  
Tracy Buckler, President St. Joseph's Care Group

**Catholic Health Alliance of Canada** has undertaken *The Great Canadian Catholic Hospital History Project*. They are collecting books or booklets documenting the legacy and contribution of Catholic hospitals in Canada. Are you aware of any such books or booklets regarding the history of Catholic hospitals or Catholic Nursing schools? For more information on submitting content see our web site at [www.catholichealthpartners.com](http://www.catholichealthpartners.com)

**Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital**, Windsor Ontario has launched a strategic pilot project that will run through to November 2012 and uses mobile technology (hospital blackberry or tablet) to help improve speed and decision making for patient flow and bed allocations.

The project will provide ADT (Admission, Discharge, Transfer) data, including real-time bed capacity utilization, as well as the number of patients in isolation, the number of patients identified as ALC and ER/OR volume information. The project is dubbed VIBE - which stands for Virtual Information Brings Efficiency.



Staff members are already impressed with VIBE and its ability to save them time and reduce the time patients may have to wait for the right bed. To read more about this project, go to [www.hdgh.org/en/frontlinenews](http://www.hdgh.org/en/frontlinenews) July Issue #29. For more information on the manufacturer of this technology, see: [www.oculys.com](http://www.oculys.com)

*Committed to perpetuating the healing mission of Jesus*