



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



As we celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas, look back over 2012 and reflect on your contributions to His healing mission.

Our roots lie in the life and ministry of our Lord and Saviour. Our founding congregations embarked upon their journey to further His mission, and have entrusted us to carry this forward for them.



We can honour that birth and prepare to give birth to Christ in our own lives. To answer the call to grow, to become more whole, to respond positively to the challenges life brings before us.

We do have many challenges in our world today, not just in our personal lives, but also in our mission. We are committed to answering the call to serve the sick, the poor and the most needy. Remember that we don't do that alone. We all are surrounded by generous people inspiring us and assisting us, walking with us.

Together we can begin to decide how to address the needs, to develop the resources to do so, and to act.

As we at Catholic Health International also reflect on Christmas and its meaning, we think of you and all that you do to assist us in our Mission. Please be assured of our gratitude and of our prayers.

Open your hearts and homes this joyous season and celebrate all that is Christ's love. Wishing you and yours a blessed holiday season! **Merry Christmas From the Board and Staff of Catholic Health International.**



## CATHOLIC HEALTH INTERNATIONAL—CHRISTMAS HOURS

Miramichi and Kingston offices will be closed from Friday December 21<sup>st</sup> noon until 8:00 a.m. Thursday January 3, 2013  
During this time, in an emergency, please contact Bob Stewart, at 506-623-0077 or via email at [rstewart@chpci.com](mailto:rstewart@chpci.com) This email address will be checked periodically during this period.

**Langlade Hospital**, Antigo WI celebrated the official Grand Opening of the new hospital on Friday, November 16th. Representatives from the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph (founding Religious Institute), Catholic Health International (Canonical Sponsor) and Aspirus, Inc. (one of the Corporate Members) welcomed 200 people to the celebration which included a ribbon cutting, speakers, Catholic Mass with Bishop Morneau, blessing of the LeRoy Walker Walkway and hors d'oeuvres. The new hospital opened its doors on May 13, replacing the original facility that dated back to the 1920s. Construction continues on a new Center for Health & Performance and a two-story addition to the General Clinic.



*Pictured here, from left to right are: Sister Adele Demulling, Sister Dolores Demulling and Sister Jean Bricco the three rhsj Sisters living in Antigo.*



*Committed to perpetuating the healing mission of Jesus*

**Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital**, Windsor ON recently launched a new program entitled "No one Dies Alone".

Maria Giannotti, the Spiritual Care Coordinator at the hospital felt compelled to ensure that this never happened again, following an incident where a patient was alone in his final moments.

Maria did some research and found a volunteer program which began more than a decade ago at Sacred Heart Medical Centre in Eugene Oregon. It has since been adopted in hospitals worldwide, and is considered an example of best practice in end-of-life care.



The program tries to ensure that patients are not alone in the final stages of their life, if there are no family or friends to be there.

A volunteer for this program is a very special individual, who can sit for two to four hours at a time during vigils that can last from hours to days. The process of death can get emotional even for a volunteer; to watch someone as they die or draw their last breath is a very powerful experience. The task varies from simply sitting quietly with the patient, to holding their hand to reading to them, or holding the phone to their ear to hear the voices of their family members who are too far away to be there.

The hospital was able to raise some funds through their Gala dinner which was then matched by a very generous local donor. Eight volunteers have already come forward to participate in the program, which they plan to Pilot in one unit in January and roll out across the hospital in March.

Future editions of the Torch will report on the progress of this program.

**Hotel Dieu Shaver Health & Rehabilitation Centre**, St. Catharines, ON recently launched this very inspirational video. Turn up your headphones and have the tissues handy! This is a must see! [This is our House.](#)

**Catholic Health International Board and Corporation Meetings for 2013:**

February 6,  
June 5, 6, 7 (Annual Corporation Meetings)  
April 3  
September 11  
October TBA  
November 20

To submit content for the Torch or to subscribe: [cbatten@chpci.com](mailto:cbatten@chpci.com)  
Past editions are on-line at [www.catholichealthpartners.com](http://www.catholichealthpartners.com) under NEWS

**Sister Elizabeth Van Straten**, rhsj



Sister Van Straten will be retiring January 1, 2013 from the position of CEO at St. Bernard Hospital in Chicago Illinois. Sister was recently honoured at the City of Chicago's November Council meeting, where the Cook County Board of Commissioners read and recorded an official resolution to honour her and her 34 year contribution to the people of the City of Chicago, especially the residents of the Englewood Community where the Hospital is located. [Click here](#) to read

On November 27th the Illinois Congressman honoured her in the US House of Representatives! [Click here](#) to read



**Catholic Health Alliance of Canada  
2013 Annual Conference**  
May 1-3, 2013  
Calgary, AB  
Fairmont Palliser Hotel

**2013 JOINT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL— PLENARY SESSION**  
Held every two years, this conference includes the CEO/ Executive Director/Facility Manager and Board/Advisory 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 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
- † Sister Elizabeth Davis, RSM, Congregational Leader, Sisters of Mercy, St. John's, NL