



National Catholic Health Care Week

Sunday, October 2 to Saturday, October 8, 2022.

This year, National Catholic Health Care Week seeks to build understanding and connection with our mission and contribution as a Catholic health community with a passion for justice and the values of compassion and inclusion—working with others to build a society where all are seen and heard.

Through stories, reflections and prayer, the Week encourages us all to build bridges of hope and healing in our communities and our society: to uphold human dignity, welcome all, care for each other, build trust, and sow seeds of equity, healing and reconciliation in our world.

Building Bridges

Love shatters the chains that keep us isolated and separate; in their place, love builds bridges... We, as people, should be passionate about meeting others, seeking points of contact, building bridges.
Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*.

This year's theme "Building Bridges" focuses on our commitment as Catholic health to reach out, create connections, care for all, address gaps and work collaboratively to improve the health and wellbeing of all Canadians. Inspired by the Gospel and grounded in shared beliefs and values, we work together to achieve a Canadian society that reaches out to every person who is suffering from illness, stigma, poverty or loneliness. We are committed to providing care to people who are most vulnerable in our society, to addressing gaps in health care and to developing innovative programs to meet those needs.

Each day we work to build bridges of trust and healing with individuals, families, care teams, communities and our partners in care. As innovators, advocates and strong partners across our health care system, we have a passion for justice and are driven to make the world a better place, where everyone finds belonging, dignity and worth. As Catholic organizations in Canada, our efforts must begin with honesty and humility about our history and the impact of our action on the health status of Indigenous Peoples. As Catholic health care, we are committed to listening, learning and taking action with others to bridge voids, open doors, foster trusting care environments and create the conditions for a society where all are seen and heard.

We work with many partners—in our Catholic community, our health system and beyond—to contribute to and help shape an ever-evolving health system, drawing on our Catholic values, and a legacy of innovation and ethical reflection. This collaborative work in building bridges of trust, care and service make the Canadian health care system—and Canadian society—stronger.

The Courageous Gift of Catholic Health Care

During National Catholic Health Care Week, we invite all to reflect on and share the story of the courageous gift of Catholic health care. As Catholic health organizations across Canada, we are united in a 400-year healing mission and are inspired by a calling to care for all with compassion and humanity—body, mind and spirit. This week is an invitation to learn more about the role, value and impact of Catholic health care in Canada and to be vocal, informed supporters of Catholic health care and the healing ministry of Jesus in Canada. [The Courageous Gift](#) expresses the heart of our work, rooted in the Gospel and the legacy of our founding congregations.