

Catholic Health Care Federation
Sponsor of

 CATHOLIC HEALTH
INITIATIVES®

A spirit of innovation, a legacy of care.

1999 Broadway
Suite 2600
Denver, Colorado 80202
www.catholichealthinitiatives.org



Passing
THE FLAME

Sponsorship of
Catholic Health Initiatives


† CATHOLIC HEALTH
CARE FEDERATION



PASSING THE FLAME OF *sponsorship*

From 1994 to 1996, ten congregations of women religious engaged in a dialogue that led to the formation of Catholic Health Initiatives. They envisioned a new model of sponsorship to carry the Catholic health care ministry forward. Their vision focused on a shared model of sponsorship with equal participation by religious and lay members. This precedent-setting structure made Catholic Health Initiatives the first Catholic health system to give the laity a sponsorship role in its facilities.

The women religious and lay leaders who formed the Steering Council that created Catholic Health Initiatives depended on mutual trust and a pioneer spirit to guide them in the evolution of the new sponsorship model. They had no rules or conventions to follow. It was as if the Steering Council created an architectural design, but did not fill in the colors, shapes or arrangements. The council understood that those who would implement the new sponsorship model would need flexibility in order to make it a reality.



Through a discernment process, the Members and the Board of Stewardship Trustees came to a fuller understanding of how the founding congregations had carefully tended the flame of sponsorship for many decades, then passed that flame to the Board for safekeeping. In general, sponsorship refers to the unique relationship of oversight, endorsement and support by a group that commits to advancing the healing ministry of Jesus.

At this time in the evolution of sponsorship, the congregations have transitioned to a role of participation in and support of Catholic Health Initiatives, as well as influence on the organization's mission. Influence is a matter of style: for Catholic Health Initiatives, the style is collegial.

The Members of Catholic Health Initiatives carry out their role through committee appointments, periodic dialogues and participation in key functions as they relate to the reserved powers. Examples of key opportunities for influence by the Members within Catholic Health Initiatives include:

- Proactive role in advocacy, particularly in cooperation with Catholic Health Initiatives' national Advocacy Group.
- Participation in Catholic Health Initiatives committees, such as:
 - Advocacy Advisory Committee
 - Mission and Ministry Fund Advisory Committee
 - Healthy Communities Task Force

DEFINITIONS

Sponsorship: The canonical/Catholic Church relationship between a civil corporation and a ministry, which enables that ministry to have Catholic identity.

Public Juridic Person: An entity within the Roman Catholic Church that functions much as a corporation does within civil law. A public juridic person may acquire, retain, administer and alienate property in the name of the Roman Catholic Church (canon 1254). A public juridic person must be established by an appropriate ecclesiastical authority.

Alienation: The transfer of stable patrimony (church property) from one party to another.

Temporal Goods: For the purpose of sponsorship, temporal goods are understood to be real property: i.e., land and buildings.

Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life:

The ecclesiastical authority that granted Catholic Health Care Federation public juridic personality; the office in Rome/Vatican City to which Catholic Health Care Federation is accountable.

Catholic Health Initiatives Members/Members of the Civil Corporation:

Composed of one representative from each active congregation participating in Catholic Health Initiatives, with each representative having one vote; and one non-voting representative from each honorary congregation.

Catholic Health Care

Federation Members: Members of the public juridic person named Catholic Health Care Federation. The members are the same physical persons as the members of the Board of Stewardship Trustees.

ROLES

Religious Congregations Participating in Catholic Health Initiatives

The congregations of women religious who either founded or later joined Catholic Health Initiatives. Each congregation chooses to be either active or honorary.

Catholic Health Initiatives Members

The Members of the civil corporation of Catholic Health Initiatives. Each Member represents one of the active congregations.

Sponsorship Trustee

A member of the Board of Stewardship Trustees, who “is appointed by the Members of the civil corporation from one of the active congregations. As Sponsorship Trustee, she fulfills the canonical role of appointing all other members of the Board of Stewardship Trustees, as required for Catholic Health Initiatives by The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life in Rome, Italy. Presently, there are four Sponsorship Trustees.

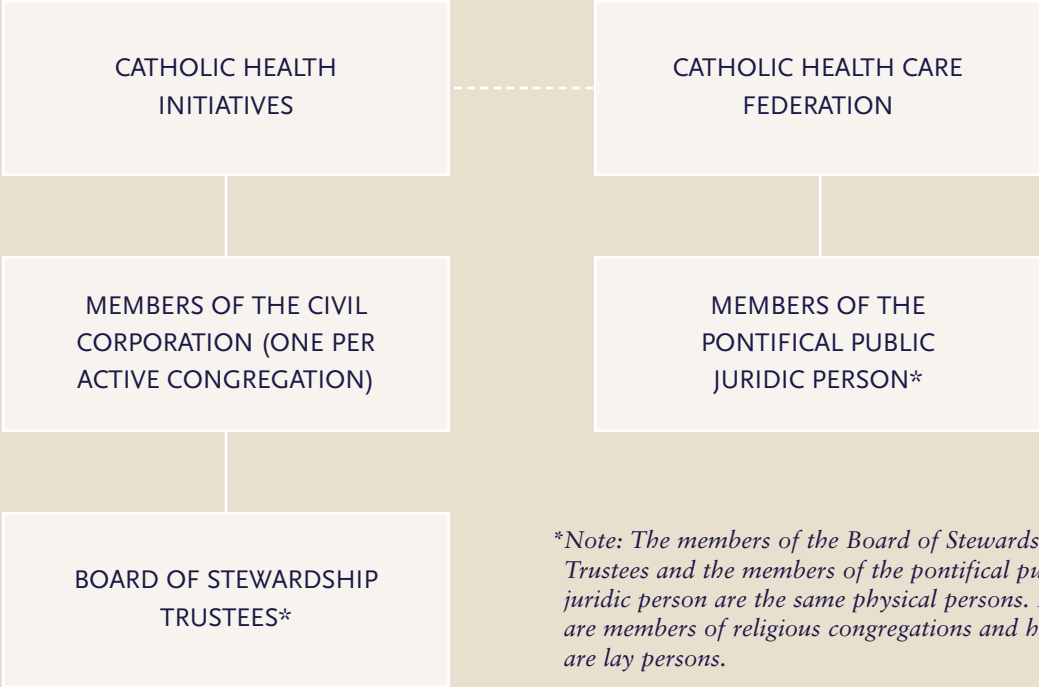
Board of Stewardship Trustees

Board of the civil corporation, Catholic Health Initiatives, which governs the organization. The members of the board are also members of Catholic Health Care Federation, the canonical corporation or pontifical public juridic person that sponsors Catholic Health Initiatives’ market-based organizations, community health service organizations and joint operating agreements on behalf of the Roman Catholic Church. Half of the members of the board are members of religious congregations and half are lay persons.

President and Chief Executive Officer

Serves as an informational resource by keeping Members informed about Catholic Health Initiatives strategies and activities, and facilitates a linkage between the Members and the Board of Stewardship Trustees.

CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES AND CATHOLIC HEALTH CARE FEDERATION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**Note: The members of the Board of Stewardship Trustees and the members of the pontifical public juridic person are the same physical persons. Half are members of religious congregations and half are lay persons.*

IN THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, THE CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES MEMBERS AND THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP TRUSTEES RELATE DIRECTLY TO ONE ANOTHER.

Opportunities for nurturing and relationship building between the Catholic Health Initiatives Members and the Board of Stewardship Trustees include:

- Annual joint meeting; reflecting together on key issues
- Annual joint retreat
- Planned time for prayer and rituals
- Attendance at the bi-annual National Leadership Conference
- Planned meals together
- Other opportunities mutually identified by the Members and Board

Excerpts from the Statutes of Catholic Health Care Federation

PURPOSE

The Purpose of Catholic Health Care Federation is to embody the mission of the healing ministry of Jesus in the Church through the ownership and management of health facilities and the offering of programs and services consistent with that purpose. Its operations are conducted in a manner consistent with the teachings and laws of the Roman Catholic Church. It adheres to the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services* promulgated by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, as approved for use by individual Bishops in their Dioceses.

Relationship to The Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life

Catholic Health Care Federation is accountable to The Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, which must approve any:

- Change in the purpose of Catholic Health Care Federation.
- Transaction described as an alienation (transfer of church property) that is above the threshold amount approved for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- Dissolution of Catholic Health Care Federation.
- Change in the statutes of Catholic Health Care Federation.

The Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life also:

- Maintains vigilance that the integrity of faith and morals is preserved and the apostolic activity of Catholic Health Care Federation is for the common good.
- Receives the annual report of the Catholic Health Care Federation.
- Monitors the use of the temporal goods (property) of Catholic Health Care Federation to ensure the use is in accord with the federation's purpose.

Reservation of Powers, Duties and Rights of Members

The power, duties and rights of the members of Catholic Health Care Federation include:

- Approve the philosophy and mission.
- Amend the statutes (requires a two-thirds majority vote).
- Amend the bylaws.
- Approve termination of the Federation (requires a three-quarters majority vote).
- Accept new affiliates.
- Establish and approve the roles and functions of members.
- Assure that the Federation's business is conducted in a manner consistent with the teachings and laws of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Approve any long-term debt.
- Approve purchase, sale, lease or any other transfer of property belonging to the Federation.
- Approve acquisitions of health care facilities.

Catholic Health Care Federation Canonical Oath

With singular fidelity, we, the Stewardship Board of Catholic Health Initiatives, accept canonical stewardship of Catholic Health Care Federation, a Public Juridic Person of Pontifical Right. In keeping with Christ's healing mission, we pledge loyal support of Catholic health care. We promise to promote and champion its growth and continuation, to reflect Catholic values, and foster holistic and compassionate care with special regard for the poor and underserved.



The Catholic Health Initiatives Prayer

Gracious God, in union with our sisters and brothers across the country we pray for your blessing upon the ministry we share in Catholic Health Initiatives.

Grace us with a spirit of reverence for the individuals and communities we serve, a spirit of integrity in our collaboration with each other, a spirit of compassion in our healing efforts, and a spirit of excellence in how we do what we do.

May the mission and vision of those who began our coordinated ministry come alive in us as we continue their legacy of care. And in our every interaction on this Emmaus journey together, may we discover the innovative power of our spiritual story — as bread, broken and shared, for the life of the world.

We pray this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives among us as Prophetic Servant, forever and ever. Amen!