



the next generation of sponsorship

Evolving. Growing. Serving.

Ensuring a Healthy Future for Our Healing Ministry

A LETTER FROM SR. MIRIAM & SR. JUDITH ANN

Since 1851, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine (CSA) have responded to the unmet needs of the underserved through the development of a number of sponsored health and human service ministries. Our congregation has always been committed to responsible and creative stewardship of community resources, and increased collaboration with others to bring God's love and healing presence to those in need.

In 2007, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine formally established the next generation of sponsorship of the ministries of our congregation. It was at that time, in response to our request, that the Vatican issued a decree giving the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine formal approval for a new model that transitioned sponsorship from being entirely held by the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine to a new leadership structure (called public juridic person by the Catholic Church) that includes sisters and laity.

In this new model, the CSA congregational leader appoints at least five Members, which may include both laity and religious. Prior to 2007, there were three Members of the Sisters of Charity Health System, each one a Sister of Charity of St. Augustine. In the past and current sponsorship model, the Members are responsible for exercising certain reserved powers such as approval of philosophy and mission, as well as the approval of the CEO, encumbering assets, and joint ventures.

We arrived at today's structure for sponsorship through a thoughtful, diligent process to consider a model of sponsorship that would uphold and grow the mission of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and our Catholic identity into the future and would include an increased role for the laity. In the pages that follow, we have outlined this process to provide context to the importance and significance of this next generation of sponsorship for the Sisters of Charity Health System.

As always, we celebrate our heritage and the gifts and talents that our lay colleagues bring. We are proud to have the laity join our sponsorship to share in the joy and responsibility of ensuring our Catholic identity. This next generation of sponsorship is committed to continuing the mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine in today's world and well into the future.

Sr. Miriam Erb, CSA

CONGREGATIONAL LEADER
SISTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA

PRESIDENT & CEO
SISTERS OF CHARITY HEALTH SYSTEM



Promoting Christ's Healing Ministry

WHAT IS SPONSORSHIP?

Sponsorship of a health care ministry is a formal relationship between an authorized Catholic organization and a legally formed entity entered into for the sake of sustaining and promoting Christ's healing ministry to people in need.

At its most basic level, sponsorship refers to the relationship of oversight and support between a health care facility and a group that is committed to advancing the healing ministry of Jesus as part of the Catholic Church. Traditionally, Catholic health care facilities have been sponsored by religious congregations, such as the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine (CSA). The sponsor is responsible for connecting the Catholic Church and its teachings to the ministry's founding intent and suggesting modification to its form or configuration to ensure its continued strength and relevance to the communities it serves.

The Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine established the Sisters of Charity Health System in 1982 to provide the direct oversight and stewardship of sponsored ministries on behalf of the congregation. The establishment of the Sisters of Charity Health System* brought their sponsored hospitals together, ensuring strength in operations, a solid base for mission and ministry development and encouraging increased collaboration with laity. Today, the Sisters of Charity Health System is the parent corporation of more than twenty health and human services organizations in northeast Ohio and South Carolina.

**Initially known as Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine Health and Human Services (1982)*

The Process Leading to the Current Sponsorship Model

Since beginning its mission and ministry in 1851, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine have been responsible for the governance and oversight of its sponsored ministries. With the challenges inherent in the health care environment, the congregation began a process in 2002 to shape the future of sponsorship. The ultimate goal for this planning process was to develop the structure, processes and leaders for the next generation of sponsorship. This process was completed in 2007 with the approval of the Vatican of a new public juridic person called CSA Health System Ministries.*

ADDITIONAL GOALS INCLUDED:

- Achieve goals of ministry on behalf of the Catholic Church: caring for the poor, meeting unmet needs, advocating for justice, collaborating with others, etc.
- Be responsible stewards of the ministry by transitioning sponsorship into a partnership with others, including the laity
- Celebrate the gifts of the laity including their competencies, expertise, dedication of mission and personal faith commitment by placing the laity in leadership and governance roles
- Uphold Catholic sponsorship of entities in the long term
- Minimize the impact of the changing demographics of women religious
- Continue to engage the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine in the ministry

In analyzing possible sponsorship models, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine conducted a thorough review of sponsorship options in the current theology of mission and the documents of Vatican II and its teaching. This led to a diligent process that took into consideration the demographics of many different congregations sponsoring health and human service ministries, and research on current trends of Catholic health care throughout the country.

There were also significant discussions with CSA congregational leadership, board members and other laity throughout the Sisters of Charity Health System, and extensive research and interviews with other religious congregations. The findings and discussions helped the congregation determine that the best sponsorship option was to form a new public juridic person* of pontifical right.

*Public juridic person (PJP): Canon (church) law describes a juridic person as a group of persons dedicated to the purpose of helping the church achieve its mission. Similar to a civil corporation, a PJP performs work in the name of the Catholic Church and in accord with church law.

A Seamless Transition

The implementation of the new public juridic person (PJP) constitutes a transition from sponsorship being held entirely by Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. Sponsorship is now held by the new PJP, which includes sisters and lay members who are responsible for overseeing canonical (church law) sponsorship for the Sisters of Charity Health System. The transition also included the development of the new PJP name – CSA Health System Ministries – as one part of an overall initiative to tell the stories and accomplishments of our collective ministries.

Lay members who are invited to join the PJP are expected to be committed to the essential mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and be willing to share in the commitments to the origins of this mission. Education in the mission and philosophy of the congregation and their understanding and implementation of Catholic identity are critical to the success of the PJP.

Because the current sponsorship model functions in a similar manner to the former model, change was seamless to the operating organizations of the Sisters of Charity Health System. While this governance change may appear modest, it builds opportunity to address changing needs in the future. This change is consistent with the direction of the Catholic Church in fostering the gifts of the laity, and it helps the Sisters of Charity Health System evolve to ensure a healthy future of its mission and ministries.

| ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR SPONSORSHIP: | FORMER SPONSORSHIP STRUCTURE: | CURRENT SPONSORSHIP STRUCTURE: |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Sponsorship of the Sisters of Charity Health System has moved from the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, which was the original canonical sponsor, to the CSA Health System Ministries, which is the new canonical sponsor.</p> | <div data-bbox="597 1213 1019 1331">Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine</div> <div data-bbox="597 1344 1019 1461">Sisters of Charity Health System and sponsored ministries</div> | <div data-bbox="1084 1213 1507 1331">CSA Health System Ministries</div> <div data-bbox="1084 1344 1507 1461">Sisters of Charity Health System and sponsored ministries</div> |

Meet the Members

With the establishment of the public juridic person, CSA Health System Ministries, there is a requirement for the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine’s (CSA) congregational leader to appoint a minimum of five Members. Today, the Members of CSA Health System Ministries include: Sr. Miriam Erb, CSA congregational leader; Sr. Mary Ann Andrews, CSA; and Sr. Cabrini Ferritto, CSA; along with three lay members. Joining as lay members are: Albert DeGulis, retired senior vice president and portfolio manager from Alliance Capital Management in Cleveland; Terrence Kessler, partner with the law firm Black, McCuskey, Souers and Arbaugh; and John Boudreaux, founder of The Boudreaux Group, an architectural firm in South Carolina.*

*As of January 2012

The Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine received Vatican approval in 2007 to establish a public juridic person, called CSA Health System Ministries, to provide sponsorship oversight of the Sisters of Charity Health System. As the CSA Health System Ministries was implemented, a new mission statement evolved to guide this transition to the new sponsorship model.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC JURIDIC PERSON:

CSA HEALTH SYSTEM MINISTRIES

As its purposes, CSA Health System Ministries shall ensure that the charism, philosophy and values of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, in imitation of the ministry of Jesus as reflected in the Gospel, are being implemented and enhanced in all of its facilities, organizations and programs. CSA Health System Ministries will adhere to the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services as approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the social teachings of the Catholic Church, as amended from time to time. CSA Health System Ministries serves to develop and coordinate the delivery of Catholic health, education and human services through the promotion of collaboration, cooperation and sharing of resources among its organizations. CSA Health System Ministries also encourages the development of new programs and services to respond to unmet health, education and human service needs.

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

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