

A Message from the President

Don A. Beeler, FACHE

TO: All Associates, Physicians, and Volunteers

DATE: May 20, 2009

SUBJECT: Sister Sara Carter, CCVI

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of our beloved Sister Sara Margaret Carter on May 18, 2009. Sr. Sara played a significant role in the history of CHRISTUS Health. She served as Administrator of CHRISTUS St. Anthony Hospital in Amarillo, Texas and then opened CHRISTUS Villa Rosa Hospital in 1970. In 1978, she retrained in pastoral care and education and began the first department of pastoral care and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program at CHRISTUS Santa Rosa. She expanded the priest-only staff to include professionally certified women and men religious and laity as chaplains. Sr. Sara was a champion of patients' rights, particularly in regard to end-of-life issues long before Advance Directives and she established Ethics Committees which were common in Catholic health care. More recently, Sr. Sara served as chaplain for CHRISTUS Spohn hospitals in Corpus Christi and Beeville, in addition to volunteering at the CHRISTUS Transplant Institute.

Vespers services for Sr. Sara will be held on Wednesday, May 20th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Chapel at the Village of the Incarnate Word, and Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, May 21st at 11:00 a.m., also at St. Joseph's Chapel.

We give thanks for the life and service of Sr. Sara.