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An announcement from
Mark Sullivan
President & CEO



Catholic Health Prepares to Transition Sisters Hospital, St. Joseph Campus into COVID-19 Treatment Hospital

Taking a major step in the battle to care for the growing number of patients with COVID-19, and the anticipated cases expected across the region, Catholic Health is transitioning Sisters of Charity Hospital, St. Joseph Campus in Cheektowaga into a COVID-19 Treatment Hospital. Services at Sisters of Charity Hospital's Main Street Campus will not be affected by this change.

We've been charged by the Governor and County Executive to come up with creative solutions to deal with the crisis before us and the surge in patients we expect to see. Creating a central location within our system to care for COVID-19 patients who need multiple levels of care, will allow us to focus our resources to provide the very best care, while continuing to offer high quality acute and emergency services at our other hospitals to meet the ongoing medical needs of our community.

Along with other recent initiatives we've implemented, discussions about turning St. Joseph Campus into a COVID-19 Hospital have been underway for several weeks. The hospital's central location in Erie County and flexibility to phase in services and critical care beds, make the campus an ideal location to provide this specialized care. As our plans take shape, I will provide you with more details in the coming days.

Our dedicated COVID-19 Emergency Management Team, led by Marty Boryszak, has been working relentlessly to prepare our system for what is coming. Approaches, like our plans for St. Joseph Campus, have proven effective to treat and contain the spread

of Coronavirus in Washington State and other cities around the world, and we are confident it will help us in Western New York. Retired Rear Admiral Rebecca McCormack-Boyle, RN, our Chief Integration Officer, has been charged to execute the transition plan.

Catholic Health has been meeting with the CWA, which represents associates at St. Joseph Campus and throughout our system, and shared our plans for the campus with them today. They are an important partner as we care for our community. I have also share our plans with Governor Cuomo's leadership and County Executive Poloncarz and appreciate their support. They too, are encouraged by the steps we are taking to care for COVID-19 patients and reduce the risk of transmission in our community.

Along with our Board of Directors and Medical Staff, everyone we have spoken with has been supportive and recognizes that this is the right thing to do for our community at this time. As I and our government leaders have been saying, "We all need to work together and we will get through this."

I'm extremely proud of our team and the work you are doing during this time of crisis. In just one day, 300 amazing associates (and counting) have signed up to be on our COVID-19 Response Team.

Our Mission has never been more evident than it is today. These efforts, along with the high quality, compassionate care you provide, will help us all keep our patients, long term care residents, community and one another safe.