

## Looking to the Future for the 67th Annual Convention

**W**hat are *you* doing tomorrow? We are a culture continually looking to the calendar to keep track of appointments and events that are coming up. Embracing that future focus is the intent of the 67th Annual Convention of the Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan! The convention theme *'What is our Tomorrow? Living the Compassion of Christ in Healthcare'* will invite convention attendees to consider how Catholic health care might develop over the coming years, and how each of us can influence that growth. This 2010 convention will be hosted at the **Delta Bessborough Hotel** in Saskatoon, from **October 24 to 26, 2010**.

New this year is a **Pre-Conference Leadership Session** held on the Sunday evening. Entitled *'Creating a Culture of Collaboration in Your Catholic Facility,'* this session will provide key insights and principles of motivation to help create a collaborative culture in your facility. Understanding that leadership happens at all levels, this session is open to all convention attendees.

Featured this year will be two very dynamic **keynote speakers** - Sr. Lynn Levo and Dr. Nuala Kenny.

**Sr. Lynn Levo's** session *'Emotional Intelligence: The Compass that Guides Compassion'* will help us to understand what "EQ" (emotional quotient) is, and how these personal and social skills can be applied to allow for more success in our ministry.

**Dr. Nuala Kenny**, whose impressive biography

includes many medical credentials and leadership postings, will speak on *'Compassion in the 21st Century: Linking Mission, Ethics and Social Justice'*. Find out why the linking of the healing ministry of Christ and the social justice tradition is crucial in contemporary health care.

*'Being Transformed by Living the Compassion of Christ'* is the session title of our **inspirational speaker, Raphael Amato**. Amato has been with L'Arche for the past 26 years, and will share the contribution that those with developmental disabilities have made to his life, and how those lessons can be applied to the challenges of health care today. Amato will also facilitate the **"Town Hall" style AGM**, where CHAS members will have an opportunity to provide input on key areas that are impacting Catholic health today. Come and see what all the excitement (at an AGM, no less!) is all about.

Deemed a great success last year, we will once again recognize our facility volunteers at a **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast**. All convention attendees are invited to attend this breakfast and short program in support of those who model so clearly the compassion of Christ in health care.

Mark your calendars - **October 24 to 26, 2010** - for the opportunity to not only be challenged about the future, but also recharged and ready for whatever that future holds.

For further information, please contact CHAS at 306-655-5330 or [cath.health@sasktel.net](mailto:cath.health@sasktel.net).



## Strong Attendance at 2010 Mission Week Sessions

**T**he thought-provoking title *Euthanasia: No Way to End* attracted many to this year's CHAS Mission session. Jeff Christiansen, Executive Director of Palliative Care Regina Inc., and a trained pastoral theologian, spoke on this timely topic. Attendees in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw and Regina were given the opportunity to ponder not only their "stance" on the issue, but more importantly, encouraged to stand faithfully with those who are dying.

Christiansen likened approaching dying to the image of a horizon. He noted that the journey can seem frightening, as with a mountain horizon to a child, where there is a great deal of unknown territory at the precipice. With good Palliative Care, that horizon can be "flattened" much like a prairie horizon. People are able to see a wider view of the journey, including where they have come from, those around them currently, and possibly beyond the horizon. This not only helps to reduce the anxiety that is created by the fear of the unknown, but provides hope.

"Effective palliative care is the affirmation of life, not the choosing of death," noted Christiansen. This kind of care should assist those in need to live each day to the fullest. This is a "person-centered" type of care, not "disease-centered." He challenged us to remember that "the presence of the living Christ in our world changes the nature of our living and dying."

It was noted that although Bill C-384 to legalize euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide was recently defeated, the debate will likely persist. Current statistics in Canada show that only 16 to 30 percent of people who could benefit from Palliative



**Jeff Christiansen, Executive Director of Regina Palliative Care Inc., presents to Regina audience during Mission Week 2010.**

Care actually have access to it. It is hoped that raising the profile and practice of Palliative Care will diminish the dialogue around euthanasia. With this in mind, Christiansen encouraged everyone to vocalize the need for expanded Palliative Care

services in their area. For more information please visit the Saskatchewan Hospice Palliative Care Association's website ([www.saskpalliativecare.org](http://www.saskpalliativecare.org)) or the website of the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association ([www.chpca.ca](http://www.chpca.ca)).

Our thanks go out to those facilities and parishes that hosted these seminars: Mont St. Joseph, Prince Albert; St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon; St. Philip Neri Parish, Saskatoon, Providence Place, Moose Jaw; and Holy Trinity Parish, Regina. Thanks also to those who attended these sessions. Your commitment to Catholic health care ministry is appreciated.

CHAS Mission Week is held annually every spring, and typically stretches beyond just a week! This session was met with such a positive response that arrangements were made to record it for further distribution. We hope to have the completed DVD available by this fall. Please contact the CHAS office for more details.



Please feel free to circulate this newsletter to your friends, family and co-workers when you have finished with it.

This and previous newsletters are also available on our website:  
[www.chassk.ca](http://www.chassk.ca)

## CHAS Receives Grant from K of C Foundation



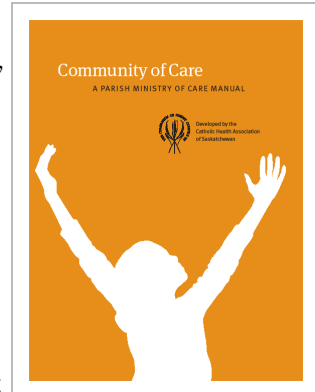
L to R: Bob Williston, Fr. Tonny Dizey, Sandra Kary

At a Community of Care workshop hosted on May 15th at St. Cecilia's Parish in Regina, a presentation was made to CHAS on behalf of the Knights of Columbus Foundation. Fr. Tonny Dizey, a board member for the K of C Foundation, presented a cheque to Sandra Kary, Executive Director and Deacon Bob Williston, Mission Educator for CHAS.

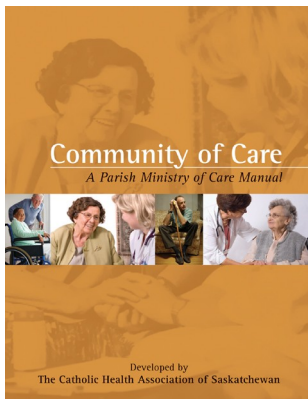
Funds received will be directed to the continuing promotion and implementation of the *Community of Care: A Parish Ministry of Care Manual*. Since its launch in October 2009, a variety of workshops and presentations have been held across the province. Locations include deaneries

in Saskatoon, Regina and Weyburn as well as parishes in and around Esterhazy, Melville, Yorkton, Canora, Kamsack, Unity, Biggar, and Gravelbourg. Presentations slated for this fall will happen in Prince Albert, North Battleford and Melfort.

Thank-you so much, Knights of Columbus Foundation, for your continued support of CHAS and this program that is designed to specifically benefit those in parish ministry.



## National Launch of CHAS Manual



"*Community of Care* is a powerful and prayerful antidote to the misconception that the healing ministry of Jesus Christ is only for health professionals. It roots the Ministry of Care in our shared baptismal call and recognizes the importance of the spiritual in healing. It is wonderfully faith based, eminently practical, and much needed."

Sr. Nuala P. Kenny, O.C., M.D., F.R.C.P.(C)

-one of many quotes (in praise of the manual) that appears on the back cover

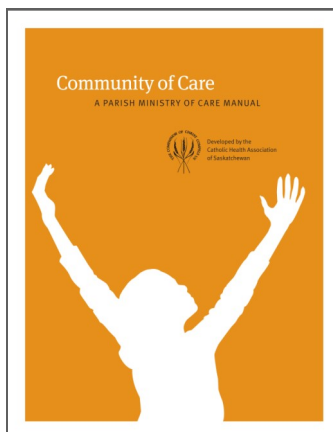
The CHAC (Catholic Health Alliance of Canada) national convention held on April 30 - May 1 in Toronto, was the launch site of our *Community of Care* national edition. Published through Novalis, the national version maintains the original content, but utilizes quotes and stories from individuals across Canada.

We continue to promote and sell our Saskatchewan version through the CHAS office, and will continue to do so until October 2011. If you have any contacts **outside of Saskatchewan** that you think might benefit from this manual, please direct them to the Novalis website at [www.novalis.ca](http://www.novalis.ca). The manual appears on the main web page with links to additional information and on-line ordering.

## Spiritual Care and Palliative Care Conventions

CHAS maintains close affiliation and representation with two key organizations in our province. Spiritual Care Saskatchewan (SCS), now in its fourth year, recently held its Annual Meeting and Conference on May 6 & 7 in Muenster, SK. The Sask Hospice Palliative Care Association (SHPCA), in partnership with the Sun Country Health Region, hosted its Provincial Palliative Care Conference in Regina on May 31 - June 1. Currently, Sandra Kary (ED for CHAS) and Brian Martin (CHAS Vice-Chair) serve on the SHPCA Board. We wish both organizations continued success as they endeavor to promote Spiritual Care and Palliative Care in our province.

## CHAS Resources



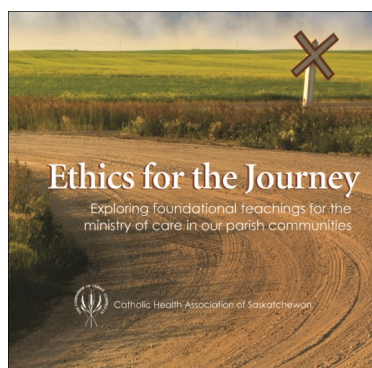
### Community of Care

A Parish Ministry of Care Manual

As a completed work of a two-year project charter, this manual was proudly launched at the 2009 Annual Convention. Building on the 1995 CHAC Citation Award winning manual *Parish Home Ministry of Care Basics*, this manual brings current and extensive information on the philosophy and theology of Ministry of Care, models of ministry within a parish, development and training components of a Ministry of Care Program, and links to resources and a variety of associated ministries.

Although this manual is primarily focused towards a Parish program, those who are facility-based will find a wealth of information for their volunteers and spiritual care providers.

**Manuals are \$25 each or 5 for \$100**



### Ethics for the Journey

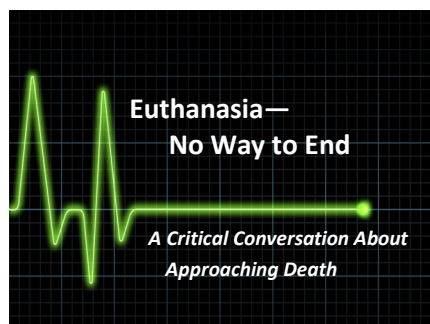
A four-series presentation by Fr. Mark Miller

In these four sessions, Fr. Mark Miller explores the history, identity and response of the Christian community to the ill. He also discusses the journey of death, specifically, the unique aspects of palliative care and the very personal exchange of gifts at the end of life.

*Ethics for the Journey* is for all caregivers who are looking for direction through the twists and turns of an ever-changing world. For those who work or volunteer in an institutional or parish setting, these foundational teachings offer a context of care rooted in the teachings and example of Jesus.

**CDs - \$25** for 2 session set or **\$45** for 4 session set

**DVDs - \$40** for 2 session set or **\$75** for 4 session set



### Euthanasia: No Way to End

Beyond the medical and ethical dilemmas that often surround the end of life, exists a critical conversation that is often overlooked.

How do we as a Christian or faith-filled community approach and respond to death as individuals, families and communities?

How do we journey with those who fear they may become a burden on others, are depressed or stressed from their illness, or fear the pain associated with terminal illnesses?

Jeff Christiansen, Executive Director of Regina Palliative Care Inc., explores the theological, pastoral, and spiritual dimensions of responding to the needs of individuals and families at the end of life and highlights the importance of a palliative care approach.

**Available Fall 2010**

For a complete listing of books that CHAS has available for lending, please check out the CHAS Online Lending Library:

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog/CHas08>