

## Voluntary Assisted Dying

Inspired by the healing ministry of Jesus, Catholic Healthcare's Mission is to "promote life in all its fullness" through the provision of aged, health and community services.

We are committed to upholding the key principle of Catholic Social Teaching: to preserve the dignity of the human person at all stages of life by providing compassionate, excellent and respectful care for all people we serve.

We ensure our residents, patients and clients receive quality palliative care in order to die with comfort and dignity. We support their families and significant others.

We respect individual choices and preferences and acknowledge a capable adult's right to cease or withdraw from medical treatment at any time.

We will not seek to prolong life. This includes the right to refuse or discontinue treatment that is burdensome and that will not improve the prognosis of illness or quality of life. We encourage and support the use of Advanced Care Directives.

Catholic Healthcare does not support or participate in voluntary assisted dying (VAD).

Prospective residents, patients, clients and their families are advised of our conscientious objection to VAD.

Catholic Healthcare is respectful of the human person and will never abandon residents, patients and clients, by denying palliative care or treatment, while providing the end of life care.