

CHRISTIAN
HEALTH ASSOCIATION
OF ALBERTA

VALUE *from* VALUES

Caring for Albertans
through the Christian Spirit

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1 Our Story

For nearly 75 years, the Christian Health Association of Alberta has been the only province-wide values-based body to exclusively represent non-profit Christian health and housing organizations. Our aim is to foster the continued offering of community-based services to all Albertans through education, advocacy, and collaboration.

Our members are part of Alberta's early history – providing health care and social services to settlers prior to Alberta becoming a province. Over the years we have founded our organizations to support Albertans, and to fill gaps between the care and services offered by government and private operators.

Established in 1943, our members today represent approximately one third of all continuing care spaces in Alberta, and provide essential and life-enriching services to vulnerable Albertans in rural and urban communities in all corners of the province.

All of our members, all of our beds and all of our program spaces are not-for-profit.

We trace our roots to various Christian communities, including Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian/Methodist/United, Lutheran, Baptist, Pentecostal and Evangelical. Our members are part of Alberta's early history – providing health care and social services to settlers prior to Alberta becoming a province. Over the years we have founded our organizations to support Albertans, and to fill gaps between the care and services offered by government and private operators. Some of our organizations were initiated directly by churches, and others by lay people who – motivated by their faith – joined together to meet the needs in their community.

Our members are involved in offering a range of health and social/housing services throughout Alberta in large and smaller communities. They provide acute care hospital services in many communities; and are significant providers of continuing care, long-term care and supportive living across Alberta. Still some other members provide home care services; and many operate social, affordable housing centers for seniors and disabled adults.

Evident throughout this work is a commitment to provide care and support to people in need, particularly for many of the most vulnerable in our population. A common thread among our members is the adherence to missions and values that reflect the underlying principles of faith, compassion and love for all.

2 Our People

The CHAA is governed by an appointed Board of Directors and administered by an Executive Director. Member organizations provide additional support to the association where needed. The Association collaborates with other provincial health associations and national bodies such as the Catholic Health Association of Canada.

Evident throughout our work is a commitment to provide care and support to people in need, particularly for many of the most vulnerable in our population. A common thread among our members is the adherence to missions and values that reflect the underlying principles of faith, compassion and love for all.



CHAA employs ***18,000 Albertans*** *including union workers and physicians.*

CHRISTIAN HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Allen Gray Continuing Care Centre
The Bethany Group
bethany Creating Caring Communities
Covenant Care
Covenant Health
Covenant Living
The Good Samaritan Society
Father Lacombe Care Centre Foundation
Lamont Health Care Centre
Shepherd's Care Foundation
Affordable, Christian, Age-in-Place Care
Sherwood Care
St. Michael's Health Group
Sunnyside Care Centre

LABOUR & PROFESSIONS

HSAA The Union of Healthcare Professionals
College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta
AUPE Alberta Union of Provincial Employees
United Steelworkers USW Unity and Strength for Workers
CUPE Alberta
United Nurses of Alberta

3 Our Calling

The CHAA, its member organizations and their workers are bound by a common calling to live our vision, mission and values.

Our Vision

To expand the provision of charitable, non-profit, Christian health and housing services to Albertans of all creeds, cultures, circumstance and lifestyle – so they may commune in the sacred and welcoming embrace of Jesus' healing ministry, and so our capacity to serve the vulnerable is ever-improved.

Our Mission:

To follow the values of our faith so that we may serve all Albertans in need of care and compassion, by supporting and engaging our residents, communities, members and our governments through inclusive leadership, education, awareness and advocacy.

Our Values:

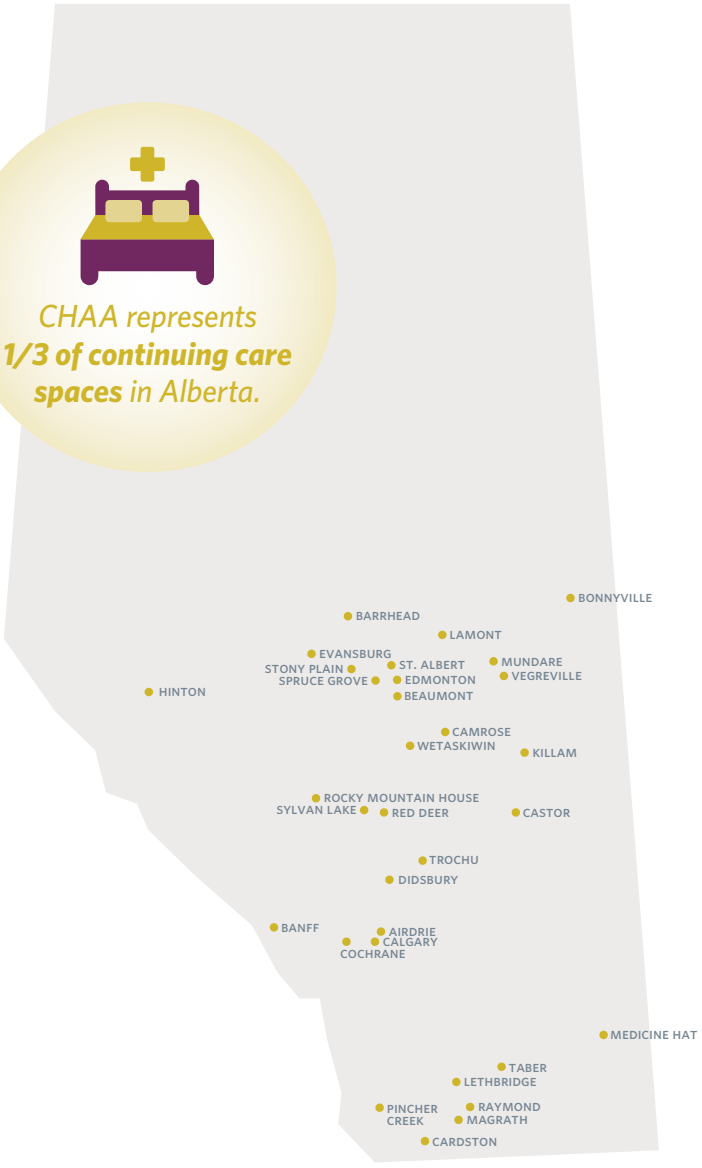
Our Christian faith guides our vision, and we hold these values most dear:

- **CHARITY:** The offerings of a dignified life are a gift we give selflessly, for no profit or reward can be greater than to live the example set by our faith
- **EMPATHY AND COMPASSION:** We are best able to serve by understanding the needs, fears, desires and hopes of those for whom we care.
- **FAMILY:** Families are an integral part of our care team and our practices will ensure they remain connected to their loved ones.
- **SOCIAL JUSTICE:** We will afford care to all Albertans including those disadvantaged by the inequitable distribution of wealth and privilege; we will advocate for the forgotten, the marginalized, the sick and the elderly.
- **INTEGRITY:** Our positive morals and ethics are guided by our faith, and we execute our responsibilities with a fundamental passion for honesty, respect and trust among our members, workers and residents.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** Before all others, we are accountable to those for whom we care and to their families. We are also accountable to our Christian leaders and the tenets of our faith.

4 Our Facilities

- Acute Care
- Adult Day Program, Outpatient
- Adult Day Support Program
- Aging in Place Apartments
- Aging in Place Condos
- Aging in Place Lodge Beds
- Assisted Living
- Auxiliary Hospital
- Community Support
- Community Day Support Program
- Complex Long Term Care
- Continuing Care
- Designated Supported Living
- Hospice
- Independent Living
- LTC Care Beds
- Life Lease Beds
- Life Lease Condos
- Long Term Care
- Low Income Seniors Apartment Beds
- Palliative Care
- Palliative Hospice
- Rehabilitation Beds
- Restorative/Sub Acute Care
- Supportive Housing
- Supportive Living
- Supportive Living Dementia
- Specialized Program
- ✻ Potential for expansion

CHAA represents ***1/3 of continuing care spaces*** *in Alberta.*



AIRDRIE	126	??	??						
BANFF	47	22	25						
BARRHEAD	43	43							
BEAUMONT	49	49							
BONNYVILLE	63	33	30						
CALGARY	822	353	64	258	121	26	✻		
CAMROSE	76	76							
CARDSTON	95	5	90						
CASTOR	27	5	22						
COCHRANE	116	??	??						
DIDSBURY	100	??							
EDMONTON	3530	654	20	381	79	35	35	592	
		9	785	78	40	30	730	62	✻
EVANSBURG	90	30	60						
HINTON	52	52							
KILLAM	50	5	45						
LAMONT	161	14	42	105	✻				
LETHBRIDGE	758	60	10	529	36	5	118	✻	
MAGRATH	60	3	32	25					
MEDICINE HAT	272	90	30	80	72				
MUNDARE	30	30							
PINCHER CREEK	95	5	20	70					
RAYMOND	50	50							
RED DEER	100	100							
ROCKY MTN. HS.	79	30	49						
SPRUCE GROVE	101	101							
ST. ALBERT	252	230	1	21					
STONY PLAIN	186	126	60						
SYLVAN LAKE	61	??	??						
TABER	105	5	100						
TROCHU	56	28	28						
VEGREVILLE	95	25	70	✻					
WETASKIWIN	70	1	69						

5 Our Value

The facilities operated by our members offer Christian pastoral care to those who seek it, and also more general spiritual guidance – tailored to the comforts sought by each of our residents, no matter how diverse.



2,000 BEDS

The CHAA and its members can help achieve Alberta's housing and healthcare needs in a cost-effective way, and in communities that need services most. We are poised to help government achieve its target of building 2,000 publicly funded long-term care beds.

Our association is nimble, and can identify:

- Where long-term care beds are needed now
- Where future demand will occur for long-term care beds
- Which of our members' facilities have existing capacity to serve that demand
- Which of our members have the ability to expand their capacity through renovations, retrofits or new construction



FAITH & COMMUNITY

Too often the misconception that groups like the Christian Health Association of Alberta represent only those who share our faith goes unchallenged. It is false. Rather, it is the Christian faith that our members share that directs our extension of humanitarian hospitality to all – regardless of their beliefs.

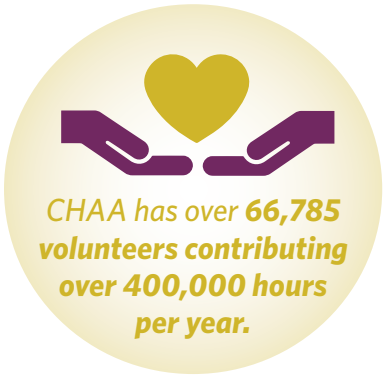
Our faith is rooted in communities across this province, where more than 60% of Albertans identify as Christian, and in which we are proud to share our offerings.

As Christians, our calling is to offer a continuum of care, and a vision of health and healing, to those in need and those at risk - in ways that reflect our values of charity, empathy, family, social justice, integrity and accountability.

The faith we share among our members has shaped these values, the vision and mission of our association – and our commitment to be leaders within our communities, promoting physical, emotional, spiritual and social well being.

The facilities operated by our members offer Christian pastoral care to those who seek it, and also more general spiritual guidance – tailored to

That society is one in which those in need can be cared for in a place they feel comforted and secure, where the workers who provide their care find reward in their responsibilities, and where each of us are given opportunity and agency to dictate how that care is provided, without ever being dismissed, ignored or forgotten.



the comforts sought by each of our residents, no matter how diverse.

Our faith also guides our holistic approach, the ethical and moral cultures we foster, and the environments in which this approach can flourish.



PEOPLE, NOT PROFITS

As a Christian association, we are called to serve and to love our neighbours. We are defined not by earnings, profits or losses – but by our vision, mission, and values.

It is through these lenses that we engage our partners in health, government and community – so that we may share and promote a common understanding of the kind of society we aim to build, and to leave for our future generations.

That society is one in which those in need can be cared for in a place they feel comforted and secure, where the workers who provide their care find reward in their responsibilities, and where each of us are given opportunity and agency to dictate how that care is provided, without ever being dismissed, ignored or forgotten.

Our motives are driven by the recognition of the sacredness of the lives of our residents, our workers, and their families.

It is for these reasons that our membership is exclusively non-profit.

On average, 95 cents of every funding dollar provided to CHAA members by the province of Alberta is put into front-line services to improve the services we offer to our residents, and the environment we provide to them and the workers responsible for their care.



BREADTH

The members of the Christian Health Association are a key stakeholder in Alberta's heath and housing systems, and our provincial job market.

We operate approximately one third of continuing care spaces across Alberta, and are active in urban centres and rural communities. As non-profit employers, we represent more than 14,000 unionized workers, approximately 2,500 non-unionized workers, and more than 3,600 physicians. Our spectrum of services ranges from pre-and-post-natal care at our acute hospital facilities,

Our experience collaborating with Alberta Health Services and the Government of Alberta remains, and has always been non-partisan, apolitical, and in the best interests of the publicly-funded, publicly-delivered system.

to the broad range of services needed by adults in later stages of life including full-time nursing and dementia care.

Speaking with one voice, our association brings an evidence-based approach to advocacy, and a diplomatic and humane approach to diplomacy. We amplify our message by communicating with a consistent, concise and collective voice for our patients, residents and their families, and with our partners in the Government of Alberta, Alberta Health Services and the unions representing our workers.

Collectively, our members heed a calling to create the kind and caring environments where a vast and growing number of Albertans – be they the residents or the workers assisting them – can be respected, listened to, understood and valued.



EXPERIENCE

Our facilities represent more than 150 years of service in the province of Alberta, fostered in our Catholic roots by a group of visionary nuns who sought to answer a faithful calling to help those in need. It was in those early days – in the face of relentless challenge and often brutal conditions – that CHAA's spirit of innovation and perseverance was borne.

Today our members pool an unparalleled collective experience to provide the continuum of health and housing care sought by Albertans.

Our experience collaborating with Alberta Health Services and the Government of Alberta remains, and has always been non-partisan, apolitical, and in the best interests of the publicly-funded, publicly-delivered system.

Our experience addressing the needs of our residents is unparalleled, and includes chaplaincy services and non-denominational spiritual guidance to any and all that seek it. These practices, which are a direct byproduct of our vision, mission and values as a Christian organization, lend a unique and valuable humanitarian quality to our experience, and to the experiences of our workers and residents.

