

Rosie Jacuzzi, Misericordia Health Centre President & CEO – March 8, 2015
Opening remarks: Legacy of Care, Courage and Compassion recognition luncheon

- Thank you, Daniel
- I'm honoured to represent Misericordia Health Centre at this special event
- Our Founders, the Misericordia Sisters, have entrusted our Corporation Members in continuing their legacy of compassionate care
- To say we have big shoes to fill would be an understatement
- The value the Misericordia Sisters – and ALL the Catholic Women Religious – brought to health care in Manitoba is impossible to quantify
- I'll just give you a bit of *our* history ...
- Four Montreal Misericordia Sisters arrived in Winnipeg in December 1898 to care for young single mothers and their babies
- The hardships they endured are meticulously documented, but they never strayed from their Mission: *Compassion of the heart for those in need*
- The Sisters continued to meet the growing health-care needs of the community: from caring for single mothers, to a maternity hospital and an orphanage, to a general hospital with a School of Nursing, to who we are today: Misericordia Health Centre
- Two other Misericordia Sisters Heritage Group organizations continue to flourish in Winnipeg today as well: Wolseley Family Place and Villa Rosa
- The Sisters have built the foundation of our health and social services systems in Winnipeg with very little Government support in the early days

- They were audacious and convincing philanthropists who formed the basis of our fundraising foundations
- It is our privilege to follow the path of the Misericordia Sisters and carry on their legacy of compassionate care
- And we *are* living their Mission in the ever-changing world of health care, including in new facilities
- Yes, Misericordia Health Centre officially opened our new Maryland building in January
- It is home to our expanded Buhler Eye Care Centre of Excellence including a new Ophthalmology Residency Program, a Diagnostic Imaging Centre and PRIME, a health centre for seniors
- As our bricks and mortar may have changed over the years, I can assure you the Sisters' Mission of compassionate, excellent care has not changed
- Misericordia's most important strategic priority remains faith-based care
- Living our Mission is what sets *all* Catholic health-care organizations apart from other health facilities
- I know the Misericordia Sisters are so proud of all we are accomplishing as we continue to live their Mission
- Certainly, though, the Misericordia Sisters are most humble and I know would shy away from recognition
- However, I am sure you all agree we should give credit where credit is due
- I am *so* pleased the Catholic Health Association of Manitoba is honouring the Catholic Women Religious

- On behalf of the corporation and sponsors of Misericordia Health Centre, I am here to tell you we are proud to support the Catholic Health Association of Manitoba's Legacy of Care, Courage and Compassion project

Thank you,

Rosie Jacuzzi