

November 2009

Dear Friend of St. Joseph's,

*We are passionate healers,
dedicated to honoring the Sacred in our sisters and brothers.*

This statement of mission has profound meaning for generations of people who have worked to advance the cause of St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center. Our mission statement was rearticulated in May of this year as we celebrated 140 years of healing in Central New York, and it is compelling in its simplicity.

As a team of dedicated St. Joseph's employees went about the task of re-expressing our mission statement, they asked themselves a fundamental question: What would we, as a hospital, never do? The answer was succinct and powerful—we will never turn someone away who needs health care.

In fact, as one employee put it, we would sooner shut our doors than deny care to anyone regardless of their condition, race, beliefs, nationality or ability to pay.

That is a wonderful commitment, and St. Joseph's very mission is made possible through the generosity of supporters like you who respond to our annual appeal. This year's appeal is dedicated to the advancement of St. Joseph's mission, a sacred trust we hold to ensure that all people in our community have a place to go for health care, including the chronically ill, children, the elderly and those who rely on Medicaid.

In a year when the extraordinary difficulties of health care reform challenge the entire U.S. economy to simultaneously expand patient access and reduce costs, your support has never been more needed, or more appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity and your support in helping St. Joseph's to provide "A Higher Level of Care" throughout Central New York. You truly enable our mission as we carry it through the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

Margaret Martin
Vice President