



Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon
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To Whom It May Concern

Sanctum

A committed group of inter-agency professionals, who work directly with individuals affected by HIV, addictions, mental health issues, homelessness and poverty have formed an NGO, Sanctum, to provide stable, compassionate housing and healthcare support through a proposed ten-bed hospice for those who are HIV positive.

The high rate of HIV infections in Saskatchewan is a cause for great concern. Of equal concern is the lack of available hospice care for HIV infected individuals who have complex health and social needs.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon supports Sanctum's plan for a hospice for those with HIV. The goals and mission of Sanctum draw attention to our responsibility as Catholics to uphold human dignity, especially where society sees little value. Catholic health has always sought to address the needs of disadvantaged members of society, and has a special concern for those on the peripheries and those who fall through the cracks of our public medical systems. Thus the Sanctum hospice project has a special interest for us.

As a Diocese, we encourage support for Sanctum. We believe it can add a vital component to the current network of community services in Saskatoon by providing basic needs for some of the most vulnerable among us.

Yours sincerely,

† Donald Bolen
Bishop of Saskatoon