

## **112<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Church in Utah**

### **REPORT OF EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.**

This report to Convention by Episcopal Community Services, Inc. is offering in celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Episcopal Community Services in Utah!

#### **Corporate History – Formed to Address Unmet and Ill-Met Needs**

In 1987, The Rt. Rev. George E. Bates, 9<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Utah, and other leaders of the Diocese determined that one of the first priorities for the Church following the sale of St. Mark's Hospital would be to address unmet and ill-met needs in the wider community. Coincidentally, work being led by The Rev. Jerrold Merrill was leading to the creation of a new shelter for the homeless within the Salt Lake City area. Bishop Bates was ready to authorize a major grant toward the creation of the shelter, and determined that a new corporate entity was needed to separate this project and others to follow from the Corporation of the Episcopal Church in Utah (the corporate identity of the Diocese). Utah Hospitality Ministry, Inc. was created for that purpose, and the shelter opened shortly thereafter under Father Merrill's inspired leadership.

The ministries opening up for this new entity expanded and diversified with the ministries of The Rev. Frazier Crocker and others. To better describe these more diverse services, the name of the corporation was changed to Episcopal Social and Pastoral Ministries in Utah, and the pastoral care services and Clinical Pastoral Education program at St. Mark's Hospital was a large component of this growing arm of the Episcopal Church in Utah.

During the episcopacy of The Rt. Rev. Carolyn Tanner Irish, 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Utah, visions for even greater ministry expansion led to the adoption of Episcopal Community Ministries of Utah as the new corporate name, similar to many of the ECS organizations in other dioceses. Major contributors to the new activities of ECS included The Very Rev. Jack Potter and The Rev. Canon David Bailey, who together had been leaders of the ECS program in the Diocese of Arizona, The Rev. Jessica Hatch and The Rev. Elizabeth "Libby" Hunter. A major endeavor of ECS, funded by Project Jubilee of the Diocese of Utah, was the acquisition and remodeling of the Murray Ballen School for the Blind building, which became the Jubilee Center. This facility housed activities of ECS, but more importantly provided operations space for many other Utah nonprofit organizations serving the poor, the disabled, the hungry, the mentally ill and people leaving incarceration.

Meanwhile, the ministry opportunities in wider Utah continued to appear. Our pastoral care education and services were renown for quality and because we

served people of all faiths and without faith. As the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at St. Mark's Hospital continued to turn out superior chaplains, and the need for chaplaincy services in other hospitals and in other types of settings became more apparent, ECS began to develop services contracts to employ chaplains and deploy them to various client institutions. This expansion continues.

## **ECS hopes to participate actively in the exploration of future ministries of The Episcopal Church in Utah as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary project.**

### **Organization**

ECS is a broad-based Utah nonprofit corporation, separate from but linked to the Corporation of the Episcopal Church in Utah (the corporate form of the Diocese of Utah). It is intentionally not incorporated as a religious corporation to enable it to be eligible for contracts and funding with sources that do not fund religious entities. Its corporate purposes are very broad, within its charter and its tax-exempt status. Our current ECS activities reflect some of the possibilities in ministry and community social services this corporate form permits.

While ECS is a separate corporation, it is ultimately connected to and supervised by the Diocese through the Bishop, who chairs the ECS Board of Trustees. It is further linked by participation in the TEC Group Tax Exemption under the Diocese. The Board of Trustees includes: The Rt. Rev Scott B. Hayashi, Ms. Bonnie Donohue, Rep. Rebecca Chavez Houck, Mr. John Hanshaw, Mr. Michael Herron, The Rev. Pablo Ramos and Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq. (who also serves as Executive Director of ECS).

### **Current Ministries and Programs**

ECS currently operates the following ministries in Utah:

1. **The Spiritual Care Center at St. Mark's Hospital**, providing Utah's oldest and one of its most significant hospitals with high quality spiritual and pastoral care services 24/7. This department is owned by ECS and its employees are ECS employees. This ministry serves approximately 8600 patients (plus their families, and a hospital staff of 1200. The Director of Spiritual Care and the Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Utah hold permanent seats of the Hospital Board of Trustees. The Bishop may designate someone to fill his position, and Stephen F. Hutchinson serves in that role. Our ACPE Supervisor and Acting Director is The Rev. Nancy Piggott. Lead Staff Chaplain is Ms. Sandra Shanti and
2. **The Clinical Pastoral Education program at St. Mark's Hospital**, the State's only chaplaincy training program accredited by ACPE, the foremost

accreditation body in the field. The Rev. Nancy Piggott is an ACPE Board certified CPE Supervisor and Acting Director of Spiritual Care. A nationwide search is underway to find a new Director. The Rev. Lincoln Ure served as Hospital Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Care for over forty-one years until his death in last June. We operate both a daytime curriculum and an extended evening program (for students who cannot take off 3+ months to participate in the day program). Our educational offering has been temporarily modified pending the hiring of the new Director.

3. **The ECS Chaplaincy at the YWCA Women's Shelter**, We provide a part-time Chaplaincy program now fully integrated as an essential component of the YWCA's response to women and children who are victims of domestic violence and related traumas. Our Chaplain addresses the spiritual needs of almost 1000 women and children annually, plus staff and volunteers numbering nearly 100.
4. **The ECS Chaplaincy at Promise Hospital**, We provide a part-time Chaplain to serve this acute care rehabilitation hospital. Our ECS Chaplain provides spiritual support and guidance for approximately 650 patients and families annually and a staff of 90.
5. **Pastoral Care Services Program at Lakeview Hospital**. With a Lead Staff Chaplain, a part-time Staff Chaplain and some occasional staff, we are serving this Bountiful hospital community of 3600 patients/year and a staff of 320.
6. **ECS Pastoral Care Services to Seniors in Episcopal Management Corporation Facilities** provides spiritual and pastoral care services, bereavement counseling, worship opportunities and a variety of special events and services to residents and their families at St. Mark's Tower and St. Mark's Millcreek. The Rev. Susan Toone serves as Chaplain in both locations. Please read her report to Convention which accompanies this report
7. **ECS Healthcare and Pastoral Care Services within the Uintah Basin**, providing health screenings and referral coordination services to enable residents of Eastern Utah better access to specialized care in Salt Lake City with participating providers.
8. **Trust II** administration. This provides financial assistance to medically indigent persons in the form of direct payments to medical providers, pharmacies and related services, usually via referrals from EDU clergy and occasional cases outside Utah (e.g., Navajoland and Mexico)
9. **Youth Impact**. ECS acts as the funding conduit for the Diocese's continuing support of Youth Impact in Ogden. The program was spun out as a separate corporation to make it eligible for other funding sources, although we continue to provide various administrative and legal support functions, and

try to generally support the work of the Youth Impact Board and staff. This program continues to be the preeminent youth program in Northern Utah.

### **Funding**

All of these ministries are part of the spiritual footprint of the Episcopal Church in Utah. They are non-parochial but often engage with and are supported by members of various congregations of the Diocese. We have been very fortunate to receive some funding from the Diocese, which started in 2016. Other than our outreach in the Uintah Basin, our ministries each have existing funding sources for most of their operating costs, and some of the costs of my management oversight. The back office services of the Diocese's Finance Department services (bookkeeping, accounting, payroll and benefits administration) have only partially been covered by the contracts involved. Efforts to expand contract funding for the latter are under way, but the capacity of most of the entities is too limited to make full funding likely in the short term. The Board of Trustees has identified this funding issue as a priority item. Personal contributions are certainly desired and very much appreciated!

### **Future Ministry Opportunities**

The Board has determined that pastoral care services are the "bread and butter" of ECS. This is what we do best, and where growth can be pursued with the confidence needed for high quality services not available through other providers. As the Board continues to develop and financial capacity improves, ECS will expand its offering of these services. Further out on the horizon, ECS hopes to establish another youth program in Salt Lake County, perhaps working in collaboration with Youth Impact or developing a youth services program similar to one now provided in Moab by the Multicultural Center.

As an arm of The Episcopal Church in Utah, ECS is part of the Church's footprint beyond the other ministries of the Diocese and its congregations. Our approach is to take our ministries to people in need wherever they are, whoever they are and whatever their faith tradition.

ECS is very thankful for and welcomes your continuing support!

Canon Stephen F. Hutchinson, Esq.  
Executive Director